# Jordan Times

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WASHINGTON (Agencies) Israel and Jordan on Monday began two days of talks on economic cooperation which were expected to get into sensitive issues of border demarcation and how to share scarce water resources, officials and

The talks are the fourth round of a three-way economic conference between representatives from Israel, Jordan and the United Stares which started in October, 1993.

"We will test the waters oo that," said a Jordanian source referring to the border issue. Neither the Israeli embassy nor the U.S. State Department would confirm that the border would be discussed.

The talks featured two subcommittees, one focusing on trade and financial affairs and the other on economic cooperation between Jordanians and Palestinians.

The U.S. delegation was led by the top State Department official on the Middle East,

Dennis Ross. Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said in occupied

Jerusalem that Israel hoped to reach "arrangements" with Jordan at the talks. But be warned that it will not be easy to draw up a

definitive border. "The Dead Sea is alive and moves all the time," he told reporters.

"When you look at a map of the region, you never know where the sea stops and the land begins. So rbe line of the border with Jordan in the area is difficult to establish," be

Jordan announced the new Washingtoo talks over the weekend after a halt since the February mosque massacre in

Jordan is seeking a strip of about 350 square kilometres from the Gulf of Aqaba to the Dead Sea, as well as two square kilometres south of Lake Tiberias in the Jordan

Valley. Jordanian officials said they were prepared to implement an agreement on the border before sealing a full peace trea-

However, Israeli reaction has been cool and one official asserted that a handover of land to Jordan could spell disaster for several communities noar the Dead Sea which would lose their water re-

sources. The issue dates back to 1922 when Britain, which held the Palestine mandate, drew up the borders between Palestine

and Transjordan. Alongside the bilateral negotiations, Israel, Jordan and the United States will also discuss the setting up of Jordanian banks in the occupied territories and development

(Continued on page 5)

## Northern Yemen declares unilateral ceasefire

Combined agency dispatches

YEMEN'S northern leaders aonounced a ceasefire in the month-old civil war on Monday as their forces pounded the southern bastion of Aden with shellfire and fierce fighting raged on several fronts.

Foreign Minister Mohammad Bassandawa announced that President Ali Abdullah Saleh's government had in-formed U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali and Arab League chief Esmat Abdul Meguid that "a ceasefire will start from midnight tonight (2100 GMT)."

"It is an open-ended cease-fire. We are abiding by the U.N. resolution" adopted by the Security Council last Wednesday, said Mr. Bassandawa, on the eve of a U.N. peace mission.

He did not explain the change of heart in Sanaa, which bas criticised the U.N. peace efforts as inteference in its internal affairs but has faced mounting pressure from its Arab neighbours and fierce southern resistance to its advance on Aden.

But the foreign minister ruled out dialogue with south-ern leader Ali Salem Al Beidh and 15 of his aides, who declared a breakaway southern state on May 21 ending the four-year union of conservative, tribal North and Marxist South Yemen.

"With others we are prepared to talk - with those who are pro-unity, pro-democracy," Mr. Bassandawa said, without giving names. Mr. Bassandawa told reporters that the ceasefire would last as long as it was respected by the beleaguered soutbemers.

The "biased" GCC statement, implicitly recognising the breakaway southern state, would "encourage the mutineers not 10 respect the ceasefire," Mr. Bassandawa

He warned that it "might not help in making implementation of the (U.N.) resolution easier" and appealed for the GCC to remain neutral.

The GCC had said "unity can never be imposed by military means," referring to Mr. Saleh's insistence on maintaining the unification of Yemen. and warned it would adopt "adequate steps" towards the party which does not respect the (U.N.) ceasefire.

But he warned that the truce might not bold given the "unfriendly" nature of a statement

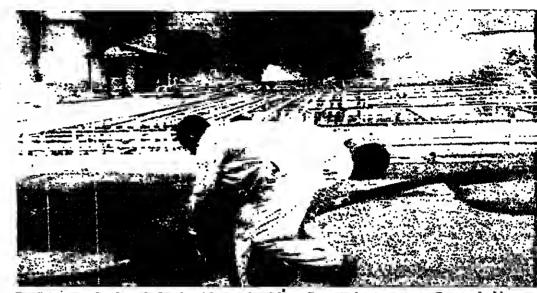
Sunday by five members of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Bahrain and Oman criticised Sunday the northern onslaught against Aden and its efforts to reunite the country by force. Only Qatar abstained from endorsing the statement, which culminated a two-day confer-ence of GCC foreign ministers in the southern Saudi resort of

Abha, "That statement might nor help in making implementation of the resolution earlier," Mr. Bassandawa said. "It might encourage the munneers not to

abide by the ceasefire. "We still hope our neigh-bours in the GCC will reconsider their position towards

(Continued on page 5)



Firefighters pash a barrel of extinguisher at the Aden refinery trying to put out a fire sparked by a missile attack (AFP photo)

### Intifada dies out in self-rule areas

GAZA CITY (Agencies) -The Palestinians quietly buried without pomp or circumstance the intifada in the Gaza Strip and Jericho on Monday, but warned that it would burn on where Israeli occupation continues.

"The intifada was against occupation and that's finished in the autonomous zones. said Dr. Omar Ferwena, wbo was expelled as a member of the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas.

But he added: "Where there is occupation there will be intifada. We expect the intifada will be more intense where there is occupation."

Hamas has agreed to limited ecoperation wirb the new Palestinian aurhorities but vowed to fight on "to liberate Palestine." from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean

The six-year tradition of marking the launch of the popular rebellion against Israeli troops with strikes on the sixth and ninth of every mooth has been called off. Shops and businesses re-

mained open on the Gaza Strip and Jericho on Monday as the

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shi-mon Peres disclosed Monday

that he had pledged in a "sec-

ret" letter to Palestine Libera-

tion Organisation (PLO)

Chairman Yasser Arafat to

maintain the status quo in

Jerusalem and paved the way

for him to pray in the Holy

City.
Mr. Peres said he undertook

to allow Palestinian institutions

which were in Jerusalem be-

fore the signing of the auton-

omy agreement last September

"The letter does not give any commitment about Palestinian

institutions established in the

city after the signing," Mr.

to remain.

Islamic Jihad, which considers the intifada began on Oct. 6, 1987, dropped its call for a

And the Popular and Democratic fronts for the liberation of Palestine oo Monday (PFLP and DFLP), as well as Hamas have not issued their monthly call for a strike on the ninth. They consider the mass un-

rest movement broke out on Dec. 9, 1987, io Jabaliya refugee camp on the Gaza Strip, after a road accident left four Palestinians dead. "The strike was against

occupation and that is partly over," said Abdullab Shami, who like Dr. Ferewena spent a year in exile after he was exiled to Lebanon for his activities on behalf of Islamic Jibad.

"The intifada is finished here because there is a national authority. There is no longer any need for daily clashes and

"But resistance against occupation will not be finished until occupation is finished." The main Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) movement Fatch has dropped the regular strike call since before autonomy was launched

Peres discloses 'secret pledge'

He stressed that the new

Palestinian self-rule authority

would have to set up all its

bodies in the autonomous

areas of Jericho and the Gaza

blown out of proportion," said

Mr. Peres, who bas previously

denied the existence of such a

A senior foreign ministry

official said the letter was sent

to Mr. Peres' Norwegian coun-

terpart Hans Joergen Holst last

Oct. 13 and it was passed to

Mr. Peres wrote that Israel

would "refrain from any action

which would restrict freedom

It's a letter which bas been

to Arafat on Jerusalem

mission.

Mr. Arafat.

at the start of last month, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat pledged to halt violent protests last September when Israel and his organisation recognised each other after de-

cades of enmity. In other developments: - Palestinian self-rule police imposed restrictions on the use of some mosques in the Gaza Strip for political purposes, clergymen said.

They said a senior police officer in the town of Khan Youois told preachers in charge of mosques in the villages of Abassan and Bani Suheila it was forbidden to fly the Palestinian flag from mos-que domes or allow political posters inside the mosques.

Muslim clergy also displayed a statemeor signed by the head of security in the area forbidding any political group from reading statements by any Palestinian group inside the mosques without permission from the police command.

"We appeal for your cooperation in... sparing the mosques in the eastern region from fallling into propaganda, debates.. that coold be harmful,' the statement said.

of religion or restrict access to

the holy sites," said the offi-cial, who refused to be named.

those who live in the city and

visitors of the holy sites," the

way for Mr. Arafat to pray at

the Dome of the Rock.

official added.

"The undertaking concerns

The letter clearly opens the

Mr. Peres also underlined

that Jerusalem would be one of

the subjects for negotiations

when talks on permanent ser-

tlement for the Palestinians

start after two years of auton-

Israel has always understood

the importance and religious

(Continued on page 5)

- A group of I80 PLO employees and a new chief of Palestinian security arrived Sunday in the Gaza Strip ro help run institutions in the

newly autonomous territories. The group from PLO headquarters in Tunis was made up of boreaucrats, economists, legal experts, journalists and intelligence officers of the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA), which forms the core of the new police force.

A crowd gathered to welcome the group and armed Palestinians fired rounds in the air to celebrate.

Several women in military uniforms were among the contingent, four of whose members were turned back at the Rafab border crossing with thorities termed security

PLA General Abdul Razek Al Majayda also arrived via Rafah to take over public security from General Nasr Yousef, who filled the post temporarily along with his role of police chief for Gaza and

(Continued on page 5)

Lebanon

wants

### Government to offer 100% tax exemption for exports income

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION: His Majesty their humanitarian efforts to help cancer pa-

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

King Hussein Monday receives at the Royal Court world hang gliding champions Judy Leden and Ben Ashman and an accompanying

team who are in Jordan to raise funds for the

Cancer Research Campaign. King Hussein wel-

comed the team and expressed appreciation of

AMMAN — The government plans to cancel all taxes collected on income from exports and a special meeting is expected in the next week to adopt a final decision in this matter, Industry and Trade Minister Rima Khalaf said

Monday. Mrs. Khalaf said the government intends to grant a 100 per cent exemption income tax on exports, up from the present 70 per cent to encourage Jordanian exports, especially to America and Europe.

The government's move, she said, is also a clear indicator of the excellent performance of the Jordanian economy this

Dr. Khalaf earlier told Jordan Television following a meeting of the Economic Con-sultative Council chaired by

By P.V. Vivekanand

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government

and the Lloyds Register are

Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali that discussion during the meeting covered Jordan's economic performance in the first five months of 1994.

The performance's of the production, exports and investment sectors during this period far exceeded similar activities in the same period of last year, the minister said.

Between January and May. Jordan's exports increased by 220 per cent over the same period of 1993 and there were good increases in production rates in most economic sectors. she said.

There has also been an increase in the number of industrial and services firms being set up and investments would lead to further production and exports, she said.

Despite the noted economic growth in production and exports, inflation remained

Agreement expected soon

which means that Jordan was able to maintain stability of its financial and monetary systems during this period. Dr. Khalaf

red upon Ms. Leden and Mr. Ashman Al

Hussein Gold Medal for Excellence, issued

directives to the concerned authorities to help

bring the team's mission, named "Flight for Life," to success.

The minister said that the council members reviewed some problems facing some sectors, like the relative stagnation in trading at the Amman Financial Market and the slow growth in certain sectors, including the construction

Proposals were submitted to the meeting, including one that suggested that the government assume the task of building its own buildings to reduce dependence on rented buildings. Dr. Khalaf said. She said a proposal for allowing the private sector to set up industrial cities was submitted to the meeting and the government promised to give this proposal

## N. Korea warns world against sanctions

VIENNA (R) — North Korca warned the world on Monday that no threat of sanctions could make it accept nuclear inspections.

No sanctions, no pressure will help solve the so-called nuclear problem of Korea." Foreign Minister Kim Yong-Nam said, after his country defied the United Nations by blocking nuclear inspections. triggering the threat of punitive action.

As Washington and its allies debated how to respond to the crisis, the board of the International Atomic Energy Agency MAEA) met in Vienna to hear how its bid to make the North keep its nuclear safeguards

promises ended in failure. Opening a week-long closeddoor session at IAEA headquarters in Vienna, agency Director-General Hans Blix made no mention of North Korea in his keynote state: ment, apparently waiting for

an imminent resolution by the U.N. Security Council. Mr. Blix told the council on

Friday that North Korea's refusal to permit sampling of spent fuel from a suspect reactor meant it was now unlikely that the IAEA could still determine whether nuclear fuel might have been diverted to make weapons.

"Not everything from the past is lost but a very important chunk is lost," he said, "They cannot really repair what has been done."

Mr. Blix said the main source of information now would be for North Korea itself to come clean on its nuclear programme. But that

looked increasingly unlikely. Mr. Blix was expected to give the IAEA's 35-member board a detailed bricfing later in the proceedings, which could also hear more from the isolated North Korean repre-

North Korea's Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland said on Monday that sanctions would lead

to war. It said the Korean Peninsula was "on verge of entering into the worst situation," with threats by the United States and its allies moving the situa-tion towards "the doors of

U.S. President Bill Clinton said on Sunday he would not back down "if push comes to shove" with North Korea but repeated that he hoped for a diplomatic solution to the dis-

Mr. Clinton, in a series of television interviews during D-Day anniversary celebrations in Britain and France, said he doubted North Korea would risk defeat and destruction in a

The door is still open for them to become part of the world community. And that's what we want," he said. China, North Korea's closest ally, could veto a United Na-

tions sanctions resolution, but the Security Council may delay a showdown by issuing a deadline by which Pyongyang must comply with nuclear inspections.

South Korea appeared to be taking no chances. In Seoul, South Korean Prime Minister Lee Young-Dug on Monday called for heightened vigilance in the face of war threats from the North and discussed contingency plans with ministers.

At a time when the North is developing nuclear weapons and frying to reunify the peninsula forcibly under communism, our people should heighten their vigilance," Mr. Lee

Washington, South Korea and Japan could, alternatively. decide on tough measures against Pyongyang even if the Security Council is hampered,

### Israeli guarantees BEIRUT (Agencies) - Leba-

non needs guarantees for an Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon before it can disarm Hizbollah, Foreign Minister Fares Bouez said Monday.

"Israeli military pressure will not succeed in forcing the Lebanese government to dis-arm the (anti-Israeli) resistance in South Lebanon," Mr. Bouez told Al Safir newspap-

Lası week Israel massed

troops along its border with Lebanon and threatened a land operation after guerrillas rocketed northern Israel in retaliation for an air raid on a Hizbollah base that killed up to 50 people.

Mr. Bouez said the Israeli

operations constituted a "total war" on Lebanon but he stressed that his country had "no interest in pulling out of peace necotiations."

I have told the American leaders that we will not give up our right to resist only because we are taking part in the peace process," Mr. Bouez said.

he said.

continuing negotiations and a deal could be concluded before The foreign minister said the the end of the month to have anti-Israeli resistance spearheaded by Hizbollah was the London-based agency set a card in the hands of Lebanon up a presence at the port of Agaba to observe the enforceand Syria, which deploys ment of sanctions against Iraq, 35,000 troops in the country. informed sources said Mon-"Israel is rrying to strip

(Continued on page 5)

Lebanon and Syria from the In the meantime, offshore resistance card... but Lebanon interceptions and inspections cannot stop the resistance as of all Agaba-bound ships conlong as it does not obtain tinue at the Tiran Straits in the guarantees for an Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon.' mouth of the Gulf of Aqaba: but no diversion of vessels Around I.000 Israeli solwere ordered by the diers, assisted by 3,000 militia-American-led warships enforcing the sanctions in the last one men from their proxy South

A negotiating team from the

month, officials said.

Lloyds Register visited Jordan two weeks ago for talks with Jordanian officials on the landbased sanctions verifications regime and reached agreements on most basic points. but several "minor points remain floating" in the air, one

on Lloyds presence in Aqaba

source told the Jordan Times. "There are no major points of conflict and we expect major progress by next week," said the source. Another source said Lloyds Register officials were drafting the necessary agreements and these could be

ready by next week. "Both sides have agreed on most of the key points and a few issues, which are very minor in nature, remain to be sorted out," said the source without elaboration.

Under the agreed formula. Lloyds surveyors will be included in a committee made up of port and customs officials and a representative of the concerned clearing agent which will monitor all Jordanian imports and exports through the port as part of the customs procedures dictated by Jordanian law.

The Lloyds representatives could freely observe whether the goods tally with the concerned documents accompanying them and send reports to the U.N. Sanctions Committee. Beyond that. Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali has said. Jordan will not accept any "inspection" of Jordanian imports and exports since the Kingdom is not under any sanctions and is free to import

whatever it wants. (Continued on page 5)

# Jordan, Israel

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### Northerners find few friends in southern Yemeni town

By Jonathan Wright Reuters

AL HOUTAH, Yemen -Northern Yemeni troops have found few friends in the southern town of Al Houtab, the capital of Lahej province and probably the most heavily populated town to come under northern control in a month of

Some of the residents are outright secessionists who now believe they are living under occupation. Even Yemeni unionists in the town, 35 kilometres northwest of the southern capital Aden, want the northern army to leave them alone.

Southern troops pulled out of Al Houtah last Wednesday, but most of the local people have stayed, setting the Sanaa government its first serious test in administering a large concentration of southerners.

The other two southern provinces under northern control

— Abyan to the east of Lahej and Shabwa on the edges of the Empty Quarter — have a history of opposition to the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP). which ruled the south until unity in 1990.

There the Sanaa government has sponsored friendly militias and many of the local people have dispersed to the country-

But in Al Houta, the market town for the farming villages in the fertile Tuban Valley, the atmosphere is rather more

On Sunday, army vehicles with megaphones cruised the crowded streets blaring out patriotic songs and appeals to the inhabitants to cooperate with their new rulers.

We will not accept occupation. We will not live under your rule... the southern people are a stubborn people and they will never surrender,' Fadel Ahmad Salem told army lieutenant Walid Al Haderi in one confrontation in the mar-

ketplace. Everyone has the right to defend himself, including the YSP," he added, challenging in a sweep the whole basis for the Sanaa government's war

effort. Sanaa says members of the YSP-dominated army in the south are rebels, criminals and

Mr. Salem was perhaps the most outspoken of the townspeople on Sunday but others also said they favoured southern secession and, out of about 20 chosen at random, none was wholeheartedly behind the unionist army.

The forces of union must move their army away from the towns. People are dying a thousands deaths a day from fear, especially the women and children," said Adnan Al Sayyed Ali.

The sound of shelling to the south was clearly audible on Sunday though the town was largely unscathed in the

fighting.
The main casualty of the war in Al Houtah was the local power station, which is now out of operation. Shortages of water and electricity were recurrent complaints.

If the townsfolk agreed on anything, it was that the war was a waste and should stop immediately. There must be a ceasefire

and dialogue. Restore peace and security and stop Yemeni forces destroying each other," said Sheikb Gilisb Al Kha-

waja.
"We want peace, not that side or this side. Both sides want gains at the expense of the people. We want new elections for new leaders to build a new state," said Saad Ahmad.

'We want to live. We don't want to be like Somalia or Rwanda. The big states must intervene to protect the poor before our kids are killed."

Abdul Aziz Fadel, a mango seller who lost his house in fighting at nearby Al Anad, agreed. To bell with the two Alis (Yerneni president Ali Saleb Abdullah and southern leader Ali Salem Al Beidh). We want new people for the

Ahmad Abdullah ecboed the view in Sanaa that the YSP and sympathetic Gulf states were responsible for the war but be too favoured a ceasefire to stop the destruction.

Lieutenant Haderi listened in dismay to the complaints of the townspeople. His civilian companions intervened when he tried to make them stop talking and disperse.

We have to listen to their opinions. They have a right to speak," said a television reporter from Sanaa.

The townsfolk, educated for more than 20 years in Marxist civic virtues, complained bit-terly that northern troops had looted government offices or opened YSP-run institutions to looting by the local population. It was not possible to check these allegations.

"They stole the money from the hank. They ransacked the education department and stole all the equipment," said one man.

"They told people they could take anything and that's completely wrong because these things belong to the gov-ernment," said Farid Abdul Hamid, a student

Aden search for water

AFP reports: Hundreds of people wandered the streets of Aden on Monday in a desperate search for water, as the north announced a ceasefire in Yemen's month-long war. Residents had been left

without drinking water for two days after northern troops bombed a pumping station at Bir Nasser, 15 kilometres from

"We have not got a single drop of water at home," said civil servant Ibrahim Hammad, squatting down to wait in a long queue of people at an artesian well, sunk in 1940 under the British mandate.

Everywhere else in the port city of 500,000 inhabitants. people rushed to wells and

Ali Mahfouz, also a civil servant, lowered a roped bucket into a well at Maalla near the port before his children, aged 8 and 10, took the water back to the car.

Inhabitants complained the water they were driven to collect was dirty. "The must re-pare the pumping station, the wells are polluted," Mahmoud Ibrahim said

Families boiled water before

using it. Electricity supplies have also been rationed in Aden and petrol stations were closed. The south's only oil refinery at Lirtle Aden, 15 kilometres west of the city, was set ablaze in two northern air raids on Sunday.

The attacks came as northern forces advanced on the

Ahead of the ceasefire. areas near Aden airport came under artillery fire for the second straight day. At least eight people have been killed in the shelling since Sunday, hospitals said.

The streets were described carlier as northern troops tightened the noose around

In Cairo, Arab League Secretary General Esmat Ahdul Megnid welcomed Sanaa's acceptance of a ceasefire, saying it was a "first step" towards balting the bloodshed in Yemen.

"This decision is an important measure and a positive response from the Yemeni leadership to efforts underway to maintain security and stabil-

ity in Yemen," he told AFP. "It is also a positive first step and calls for increased efforts to resume dialogue in Yemen and to halt the bloodshed in line with U.N. Security Council Resolution 924," said the chief of the league.



A Yemeni woman and her son, wounded in the civil war, lie on a bed in an Aden bospital

### Media flock to Jericho rooftops to record Arafat's entry

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

JERICHO - As Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat prepares to enter Jericho and Gaza this month to officially inaugurate self-rule for Palestinians in these areas, landlords are hoping to make a financial gains of his return and the media army which is expected to accompany him.

Rooms and rooftops were the most "in demand" items this week as media representatives head to this oasis town, All the major television networks and satellite beaming stations need to rent at least two rooms and a roof, land-

Because Israeli security around the Palestinian enclave is expected to be even tighter than when the Palestinian police and security forces entered in May, most media people believe that they will have one night if not more.

"The Israelis may not let us out of Jericho to send our feeds from Jerusalem as we usually do - so the European Broadcasting Union will set up a satellite station in Jericho," said the Jerusalem-based BBC

Roofs on the other hand. says CBC's Middle East correspondent Paul Workman will be "even more important for the actual coverage". Since no one knows from where Chairman Arafat and his entourage will enter Jericho most television stations are renting two

rooftops to get best coverage

of his arrival. The going cost for a spot on a roof is between \$1,000 and \$3,000. Accomodation and office space are going for similar rates. Most leases are being made for a one month period starting June 1. The \$1,000-\$3,000 is often being asked just for the day of Arafat's arrival while television stations renting whole roof tops are being charged \$10,000 for the use of the roof for the whole month

of June. The biggest clients, as in the Gulf war are the American and Japanese networks. European and other more thrifty media organisations that need to covpool space.

"We need to share," said the Jerusalem-based Swiss French television correspondent in Jerusalem. "We don't bave so much money.'

Renting by the metre home and office space owners are planning to make Chairman

Arafat's arrival the first financial venture of the self-rule era. "We need the money and this is a one time opportunity. It is okay if we make a little cash," said one landlord who is renting two rooms in his home

and his rooftop and hopes to make some \$10,000 to \$12,000

this month.

Print media representatives are expected to mostly stay at the Hisham Palace Hotel, which despite its shabby condition is expected to charge up to a \$150 a night for a room although its usual prices for a room are \$30. The Hisham Palace remains virtually the only botel in Jericho.

Some media organisations arc expecting that Chairman Arafat will also visit Gaza after Jericho, something Jericho Fateh leaders doubt. In ancicipation of a visit by

Arafat to the strip some TV networks are already looking for a "set up" in Gaza.

Most people in Jericho

expecting that "there may be more journalists in Jericho than Palestinians to welcome the PLO chairman. Israel, residents say, is expected to close off the Jericho enclave to prevent West Bank Palestinians from flocking to Jericho to welcome Chairman Arafat.

#### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

Israelis abroad warned of possible attacks

TEL AVIV (AP) - Israeli offices abroad were urged to take security precautions for fear they could come under attack by militants, Israel Television reported Sunday. The warning came several days after Israel's deadly raid Thursday on a base used by Hizbollah, in which as many as 50 people died and 200 were wounded. The television said Israeli institutions abroad "were called to be cautious for fear that Islamic militants may try to carry out terror attacks." The brief report gave no other details. The foreign ministry declined comment. But a government official speaking on condition of anonymity confirmed some measures were being taken out of concern that "there is going to be retaliation" for the air strike, and last month's kidnapping by Israel of Islamic leader Mustafa Dirani from Lebanon. Israeli diplomats abroad have been targeted in the past for attack in retribution for military strikes against Arabs. In March 1992 a truck laden with explosives blew up ontside Israel's embassy in Buenos Aires, killing 28 people. The attack was a month after Israel assassinated a Hizbollah leader, Abbas Musawi, in a helicopter attack in southern Lebanon. The embassy bombing was later Islamic Jihad, another pro-Iranian group.

#### Rabin says abducted Islamic leader talking

Haifa, Israel (R) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said on Sunday Islamic leader Mustafa Dirani, abducted by Israeli commandos in Lebanon two weeks ago, was taiking to interrogators. "Dirani is talking but I cannot tell you what he is saying," Mr. Rabin told reporters at Haifa University, where the prime minister received an honourary doctorate. Israel has said it hopes to glean information about Ron Arad, an Israeli airman who was held at one point by Sheikh Dirani's Faithful resistance group after being shot down over Lebanon. Faithful resistance group after being shot down over Lebanon in 1986. There is now additional information about Ron Arad's past and I hope that perhaps there will be some about the future. At this stage, one must be cautious and not say too much," Mr. Rabin said. Israel says Arad is being held by pro-Iranians in Lebanon or even in Tehran, a claim which Iran has denied. Pro-Iranian sources say Arad was handed over to Syrian forces in Lebanon. Last week, an Israeli general was quoted as describing Sheikh Dirani as a "pretty tough nut" to

#### Egypt releases lawyers who had planned march

CAIRO (R) — Nine Egyptian lawyers arrested on suspicion of leading hundreds of colleagues in a protest march last month that was crushed by security forces were released on Sunday, security sources said. Six other ordinary citizens also were released after spending more than two weeks in police custody on the same charges. Police armed with teargas, batons and rubber bullets crushed an attempt in May by hundreds of lawyers to march on the presidency to demand an investigation into the death of an Islamist lawyer who died in police custody. Several lawyers and passersby were injured.

#### **UAE rules out 2 wives under same roof**

ABU DHABI (AFP) - The United Arab Emirates (UAE) supreme court has sided with women whose polygamous busbands keep more than one wife in the same bouse, newspapers reported Sunday. "A wife has the right not to obey her busband's selection of a house for her unless it is suitable and safe and no other persons live in it, especially a second wife because this is harmful for her," the court said, issuing a new law. "If there is another wife in the house, the first one has the right to leave it and not to respond to her husband's order to stay until he prepares another legal and independent accommodation for her."

#### Malian leader in Algiers for Tuareg talks

TUNIS (R) - Mali's President Alpha Oumar Konare arrived in Algiers on Sunday for talks expected to focus on continuing unrest among Tuaregs despite a peace pact. Mr. Konare, who was met by President Liamine Zeroual upon his arrival at Algiers airport, said they would discuss "all matters related to the prosperity of their peoples and the peoples of the (Saharan) area," the official APS Algerian news agency said. Mali and rebel nomadic Tuaregs reached agreement in May after lengthy talks in Algeria on integrating police and army to salvage a peace pact signed two years ago but never fully implemented. Algeria, alarmed by the growing insecurity in its Saharan border in the south where thousands of Tuareg refugees live, has worked to resolve the problem. Mr. Konare warned late in May that northern Mali could soon be embroiled in civil war. The fair-skinned Tuaregs launched uprisings in Mali and in neighbouring Niger in 1990, saying they were oppressed by the black-dominated governments of both countries. Four people were killed last May 31 and 17 others were injured in a Tuareg attack on the Malian town of Fafa, near the Niger border. The main rebel movements have said they are sticking by the truce and the pact agreed in April 1992 but it is unclear if the rank and file of the organisations are observing it.

#### Qadhafi's wife meets British mother

TUNIS (R) - Libya's first lady Aicha Muammar Qadhafi met the mother of a British policewoman who was shot dead outside Tripoli's London embassy and thanked her for coming to Libya, the official news agency JANA said on Sunday. The agency, monitored in Tunis, said that the wife of Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi had told Queenie Fletcher on Saturday that she shared her sorrow because she too had lost a daughter. Ms. Fletcher's policewoman daughter Yvonne was on daty outside Libya's legation on April 17, 1984, when she was killed by a burst of gunfire during a demonstration by Libyan students. The shots appeared to come from an embassy window. Ms. Fletcher met Colonel Qadhafi on Friday and was reported as saying that she hoped her daughter's death would not keep the two countries apart. "I would wish to say I do not want the death of my daughter to be used to punish the Arab Libyan people through imposed sanctions," JANA quoted her on Saturday as saying. Before Ms. Fletcher left Libya. Aicha Qadhafi handed ber an open invitation to pay a further visit. JANA said. The United Nations Security Council imposed limited sanctions on Libya after Tripoli failed to surrender for trial in U.S. or British courts two men suspected of involvement in the bombing of a Pan Am airliner

## the wrong way

By Neil Macfarquhar The Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip -Gazans are reclaiming the night, once lost to the Israeli army's hated 8 p.m. curfew.

Giddy with post-occupation joy, couples sometimes dance in the streets. Wedding parties have been sighted after dark. At the restaurant shacks mushrooming on the beach, parking is impossible well past midnight.

But this revival of Palestinian social life is also arousing Islamic activities who seek both a significant role in local government and continued influence over public morality.

In almost seven years of protests against Israeli occupation, Palestinian avoided public displays of happiness to show respect for those killed and injured in clashes with

soldiers. Such sobriety meshed almost perfectly with the moral codes demanded by Islamists, which ban alcohol and dancing and forbid women from wearing revealing clothes, especially bathing suits.

Anyone who dared challenge the rules during occupation risked swift punishment from masked members of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas).

Now Hamas leaders are warning those days are not

"Anybody who asks to sell or buy a beer, he will be punished," declared Hassan Deeb, a religious anthority and Hamas official. "According to the law, they should be whipped.

Mr. Deeb ticked off a long list of transgressions he has seen since the 27-year Israeli occupation ended last week, including men and women dancing outside and women wearing short skirts, baring their heads or walking with too provocative a gait.

"It's not good behaviour," he said. "During the uprising,

people were afraid. After the agreement, they think they can do what they want and the law will protect them. They are wrong. We are still powerful."

> Mr. Deeb even suggested bringing back the curfew, although he would move it back to 11 p.m. "A limited curfew is a good

thing, when the night is open, people can steal, commit all kinds of sins," Mr. Deeb said. But the more moderate Palestinians putting together a government suggest the strict religious codes go too far.

We can't throw people in jail for drinking a beer," said Freih Abu Medein, a member of the 24-member council that is functioning as a cabinet until Palestinian self-rule is com-

Yasser Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which is overseeing autonomy, has announced that laws in place before the 1967 Mideast war and Israel's occupation are

back in force. And lawyers say the laws' only Islamic content involves family matters such as divorce and inheritance.

Gaza leaders warn they will no longer tolerate the lawlessness that allowed Hamas to rule the streets during the occupation.

"They send someone with a sock over his head. Two eyeholes, and Hamas written across his forehead," said Dr. Riad Zanoun, another member of the council. "If one came to my shop and said, 'close.' I could not refuse be-

cause he would stab me. "Before, three men like that could close the whole city. Now we have police, court,

laws," Dr. Zanoun said. Hamas' social crusade is part of its search for a role in the blossoming autonomy. There are signs that Hamas leaders are willing to barter an end to their continued attacks on Israelis and clashes with PLO police in exchange for a greater say in local government.

Leaders on both sides acknowledge tentative, inconclusive negotiations on the extent of religious influence on everything from social laws to education.

"In the near future I think

Hamas must organise itself as a political party or opposition against the anthority," said Majdi Akeel, a lecturer at Islamic University. The rumblings of change are

most in evidence along the death, where people sit and stare for hours at the twinkling lights of fishing boats, which only recently were granted permission to work at night. Jamai Issa manages the Abu

Awdah rest stop, one of the spartan little eateries popping up along the shore. Mr. Issa said he knew Hamas' grip on Gaza-by-night was slipping when customers not only showed up at 2 a.m. but also started asking for beer instead of coffee.

"I've even had a few women here in shorts on the beach,"

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

With a certain degree of bravado, Mr. Issa said if the Hamas tried to interfere with his business, he would summon 100 men with weapons. But Hamas' hold is still evident: It takes 90 minutes of conversation before Mr. Issa will concede he has whiskey on hand for known customers who ask discreetly. And he has no immediate plans to offer beer.

Several women who spoke to a reporter said they thought they might be able this summer to force a reversal of the sevenyear-old ban on women swimming but that it would bave to be a collective effort because anyone venturing out alone could be punished.

"Lots of women want to go swimming, but it's still conservative," said Majda Thabit. 28. "We are afraid of Hamas." Added her friend, Lamis, who said she was 25 but did not want to give her last name, "Gaza is not Miami beach."

#### JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

PROG	RAMME TWO
17:00	Envoye Special
18:30	News in French
18:45	Grands Galops
19:00	News in Hebrew
20-00	News in Arabic
20-30	Step by Step
21:10	Moos Over Miami
22-00	
22:70	The Cape Rebel
23:10	The Second Half
	PRAYER TIMES
63:51	Fajr
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CHURCHES
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swelflel
Tel. 810740 Assemblies of God Church, To
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Armenian Cathelic Church Tel. 771331. as Orthodox Church Tel. St. Ephratus Church Tel. 771751.

Annuam International Church Tel. 652526. Evangelical Latheran Church Tel: 824328. German-apeaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195 The Church of Jenes Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932 Clurch of Nazarene Tel. 675691. The Evangelical Local Church in Amuna

#### Tel. 81 t295. WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of

Temperatures will drop gradually ecoming around average with winds esterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds ill be northerly moderate and seas

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Jordan Valley	15

# **USEFUL TELEPHONE**

**NIGHT DUTY** Dr. Admın Zaghloul Dr. Fakher Belbeisi 778336 637055 623672 Al Asc 636730 644945 637660 623672

NUMBERS

#### **EMERGENCIES** Civil Defence Department . Civil Defence Immediate

630341 891228 775121 843402 Fire Brigade... Blood Bank ... Public Security Department
Hotel Complaints
Price Complaints Amman Municipality 787111 Telephone Information (directory assistance) . Overseas Calls ...... .. 010230 Central Amman Telephone 623101 Abdali Telephone Repairs ... 773iti Jordan Television Radio Jordan .... Water Authority

#### HOSPITALS

Shracisani Hospital ... University Hospital ... Al-Muasher Hospital The Islamic, Abdali ... 667227/ 116 Islame, Aroan 6612/19/ Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646 (talian, Al-Muhajreen 777101/3 Al-Bashir, J. Astrafich 778111/26 Army, Marka 891611/15 Queen Alia Hospital 686100 Amal Hospital

Zarqa Govt, Hospital ..... (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital ... (09)900560

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(09)986732 Ibn Sina Hospital ....... Al Hikma Modern Hospital IRBED: Princess Bassna Hospital Greek Catholic Hospital Ibu Al Nafoes Hospital (02)275555 FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA** INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

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**DEPARTURES** 

...... Cairo (RJ) ...... Frankfurt (RJ) ..... Chicago, Amsterdam (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

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Montreal, Toronto (R.)
Paris, Brussels (R.)

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### HUAZ RAILWAY TRAIN Dep. America 8:00 a.m. every Monday Acr. Damaneus S:00 p.m. every Monday Dep. Damaneus 7:30 a.m. every Sanday Acr. America S:00 p.m. every Sanday MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in fils per kg. 320/230 Cherry Capifrio 180/ 50 380 / 240 100 / 50 240 / 170 1.807 168 4007 250 1.80 / 50 3.407 240 240 / 168 3.40 / 240 3.507 258 7007 500 140 8 450 150 140 / 80



ECONOMIC TALKS: The Economic Consulta- Monday chaired by Prime Minister Abdul Salam

tive Connell meets at the Prime Ministry on Al Majali (see story on page one) (Petra photo)

Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday attends a Queen Mother, who Organised at Al Hussein Youth City by the General Federation of Jordanian Women (GFJW), the cerenony included enlogies by GFJW President Haifa Abn Ghazalch, former Prime Minister Zeid Rifai and former Information Minister Salah Abu Zeid who recounted the sacrifices and the numerous services which the late Queen offered to the Jordanian people, particular-ly women and orphaned chil-

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#### HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

#### King congratulates Sweden, Chad

MMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Mionday sent-a cable to King Carl Gustaf of Sweden, congratulating him in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government on his country's national day. King Hussein wished the Swedish monarch good health and happiness and the Swedish people further progss and prosperity. King Hussein also similar cable to Chad President Idriss Deby. congratulating him on his country's national day.

#### Parliament houses schedule meetings

AMMAN (Petra) - The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) will meet this morning to amended civil courts draft law of 1994, an amendment to the Municipalities Law and the 1982 Landlords and Tenants Temporary Law. investments corporation draft law back to the House. It will also discuss decisions by the House boosting their economic ties.

Supply Committee on the Kingdom's food supply policies.

#### Chilean envoy ends tour of duty

AMMAN (J.T.) - Chile's ambassador to Jordan, Nelson Hadad Heresi, this week ends a four-year tour of duty in the Kingdom and leaves for his new post as his country's ambassador to Egypt. In a statement to the Jordan Times, Dr. Heresi said that the Chilean embassy in Ammai will continue to strengthen bilateral ties in all fields, including trade and tourism. Chile values the important role Jordan is playing as a key partner in the Middle East peace process under the wise leadership of His Majesty King Hussein and appreciates the Kingdom's endeavours to enhance democracy and respect of human rights. Parliament (Senate) will meet this morning to said the out-going ambassador. Dr. Heresi reiter-discuss decisions by its Judicial Committee on the ated his country's strong support for a lasting peace in the region based on U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. Recalling a visit to Jordan by Chilean businessmen last November The Lower House will meet Wednesday to to discuss prospects for trade and joint ventures. discuss a memorandum by the Senate speaker the amhassador said that the two countries are which referred the 1994 amended Jordanian currently implementing a 1993-1995 cultural and technical programme and exploring ways of

#### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

#### FLIGHT FOR LIFE ACTIVI-TIES

- ☆ Lecture: "Wings Over Jordan," by Judy Leden of the microlight team, on Thursday at the British Council at 6:00 p.m. ★ Fund-raising Dinner: for the Cancer Research Campaign, sponsored by Royal Jordanian at the Inter.Continental Hotel.
- Thursday at 8:30 p.m., tickets JD 20. ☆ Open Day Flying: with the microlight team of world champions and the Royal Jordanian Gliding Club, on Friday from 10:00
- a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tickets JD 5. ☆ Oud Recital: by Munir Basbir at the Royal
- Cultural Centre, Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Tickets JD 5. Proceeds will go to support the work of the
- Cancer Research Campaign. For information call Royal Jordanian Gliding Club 891401 (253) or Friends of Archaeology 696682.

#### PANEL DISCUSSION

Panel discussion in Arabic entitled "The Dimensions of the Palestinian-Israeli Economic Accord and its impact on the Region" with the participation of Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jaber, former ESCWA secretary general, Dr. Bassem Al Saket, and Dr. Mohammad Saqr at the Jerusalem International Hotel at 4:00 p.m.

#### TV5 EUROPE PROGRAMME

☆ Variety television programme in French (broadcast by TV5 Europe station) entitled "Bouillon De Culture" at the French Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m.

#### FILM

☆ Chinese film entitled "Love By Chance" at

Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Amman at 7:30 p.m.

#### **NEWS HOUR**

ABC News Highlights and McNeil-Lehrer News Hour at the American Ceuter at 5:00

#### **NOVEL RECITAL**

☆ Novel recital (in Arabic) by novelist Basma Nsour at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture at 7:30 p.m. (Tel. 695291).

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

- ☆ Painting exhibition by Jordanian artist Abdul Ra'uf Sham'onu at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing "permanent" exhibition of 56 Arah contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/2).
- Plastic art exhibition by artist Mohammad Al Ameri entitled "Body" at Batadna Art Gallery (Tel. 687598).
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Fatima El-Helu at Goethe-Institut.
- ☆ Ceramics exhibition by artist Hnda Qassem at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Art exhibition of Chinese paintings at Abdnl Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jab-
- ☆ Photography exhibit entitled "Faces of
- Jordan" at the American Center.
- \* Exhibition by artist Isam Tautawi at Balqa Art Gallery in Fuheis (Tel. 720677).
- A Exhibition by artist Abeer Bawab at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Dead Sea" by Paula Williams-Brown at The Gallery of the Hotel Jordan Inter.Con-
- ☆ Exhibition by 46 artists entitled "He, Bonjour Monsieur La Fotaine" at the Freuch Cultural Centre.

### Hotel reclassification should be seen as incentives to upgrade services — Adwan

By Natasho Bukhari Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The reclassification of some hotels in Aqaha tive for improving hotel services rather than a punisbment of hotel proprietors. according to Minister of **Fourism** and Antiquities Mohammad Adwau.

During a press conference at the Ministry of Tourism Monday, Dr. Adwan reiterated his commitment for improving the Kingdom's tourism industry and making it Jordan's main source of hard

Dr. Adwan told reporters that his decision on Sunday to reclassify fire hotels in Agaba was : . . d at protecting the tourism industry's credibility saying that 'tourists have to get their money's

According to the minister,

the reclassification of certain hotels is reversible because the -inistry will upgrade the rating of any hotel that implements notable improvements in its services and facilities. According to the new ci s-

sifications, the Holiday, Cor-al Beach, Aqa. Alcazar and Miramar hotels were downgraded by one star each. according tu the ministry's rating system.

Meanwhile, both the newly established Gulf Hotel and the beachfront Aqua Marina Hotel retained their previous

ratings. Dr. Adwan said that although the measure of reclassification had been decided upon months ago, he was careful not to implement it until the busy tourism season in Jordan's port city had ended.

"I did not want to inflict any financial losses on hotel owners during that active Dr. Adwan said.

Despite the growing criticism received as a result of the minister's bold decision, Dr. Advan stressed the need for the measure, adding that it was taken only after the hote! proprietors neglected his continuous requests that they improve their services and decrease their "outrageous"

Dr. Advan emphasised the importance of having a master plan for developing fourism in the country and touched upon the prospects for a f ire boom in tourism in the ... ea with peace looming in the borizon between

He said the ministry is notive in providing investors with the "proper" intrastruc-

Arabs and Israelis.

Minister of Tourism Mehammad Adwan

try's decision to reclassify some Aqaba botels (Petra photo) Monday talks to reporters about the minis-

ture, economic assistance and facilities for tourism-related projects.

A Jordanian-Palestinian committee was formed last month to discuss the establishment of joint ventures and projects to promote tourism in the area.

According to the minister, the committee was formed upon the request of Elias Freij, the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) Minister of Tourism in Gaza and

Mr. Freij met with his Jordanian counterpart to

seek his assistance and advice in the area of tourism.

Peace or no peace, Jordan has to develop its tourism industry," said Dr. Adwan, adding that Jordan was one of the richest countries worldwide in terms of its touristic attractions and its antiquities.



TEACHER TRAINING PROJECT: Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz and British Ambassador Peter Hinchcliffe, Monday signed a memorangrant assistance for the In-Service Teacher Training Project which started in December 1992 at the Ministry of Education. According to a British Embessy statement the project's aim is to enhance the project's aim is to enhance the project's aim is Education's E ational Training Centre to the succ. ful imprementation of the educational reform in Jordan by raising the quality of in-service training for teachers, school principals and auxiliary staff. The project tavoives British ccoperation with the centre, over a three-year period, to enable the central training team and regional supervisors/trainers to acquire, and impart to trainers, the practice of participative learning. The emphasis is from teaching to learning, and to learning in the form of critical thinking, decision-making, and problem salving. The project also offers assistance for the Educational Training Centre to initiate and support a range of professional development activities through pilet projects and focused study visits (Petra photo)



WIND POWER: Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) Director General Mohammad Saeed Arafeh (second from right) and the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) President Hani Mulki Monday sign an agreement whereby the RSS will offer consultancy

services to the JEA for a second project by the authority to generate electricity through the use of wind power. The German Ministry of Scientific Research will finance 70 per cent of the total costs of the project, with the remaining 30 per cent coming from JEA (Petra photo)

### Arab Wings gets new director

AMMAN (J.T.) — Royal Jordanian (RJ) Chief Executive Officer Mahmoud Balqaz Monday appointed Ramzi Shuweihat as director of the Arab Wings, the Arab World's only executive jet charter company.

Mr. Shuweihat was RJ's vice-president.

Other administrative decisions taken by Mr. Balqaz Monday included appointing Ghaleb Madadha as director of RJ in Spain; Hassan Al Nabulsi, director of the

national carrier's offices in Saudi Arabia; Usama Al Faraj, director of Jordan's offices; Waleed Al Zeitawi will head the Dhahran office im Saudi Arabia; Fathi Al Hmoud, director of the office in Tunisia; Nabil Al Bataineh, director of offices in Cyprus; Mohammad Assi. the Netherlands area manager; Jamal Al Gharaibeh, area manager in Turkey; Fursan Asfour, executive officer of the centre's agencies and Interline; Ziad Al Zeitawi, executive officer of the centre's marlieting: Munit Al Qassem, area manager in Morocco; Marwan Al Saudi, area manager in Abu Dhabi:

Samir Al Rishiq, Amman area manager; Salem Odeh, area manager in France; Hussein Hammoudeh, area manager in Qutar: Terad Al Zu'bi, area manager in Libya; Munther Bani Hani, area manager in Calcutta, India; Mustafa Al Bibi, area manager in Bahrain and Wa'el Zakaria, director of the Riyadh office.

#### 21 teenage girls, 2 adults injured in road accident

By Elia Nasrellah Jordan Times Staff Reporter

SALT - Twenty-three people, most of them teenage girls from Salt were injured in a road accident Monday; all except 10 of the injured have been treated and discharged from hospital, according to Salt Hospital Director Usama Samawi.

Dr. Samawi told the Jordan Times that 21 girls (students of the Yamameh School), aged 12 to 14, were injured, six of them seriously, when a car careened into them as they gathered hext to a grocery store nearby their school in the morning.

The accident, which occurred at Salalem district along a very steep road, resulted in and the grocery store owner who bad been standing by the door of his establishment, said Dr. Samawi.

Six of the girls who suffered head wounds and were described in serious condition have been transferred to Jordan University Hospital and the King Hussein Medical Centre for specialised care,

according to Dr. Samawi. He said 13 of the injured, including the store owner. were discharged after treatment for bruises and light injuries, but three of the girls are still in hospital and could be discharged in two to three days. The driver, Ibrahim Zoubi, who was said to be in fair condition would need at least one week of treatment

at the hospital, he added. Health Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas, who visited the scene of the accident and the injured, said that some of the victims sustained head injuries and fractures requiring neurosurgery at Jordan University Hospital and King Hussein Medical Centre.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted the school aving that she had repeatedly urged the concerned authorities to do something about the preca-rious location of the school which is situated near the steep road. But, she said, no precautionary measures were taken to avoid a tragedy.

The health minister said that police are investigating the accident.

#### Church officials to seek end to U.N. embargo on Iraq

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Jordan will participate in a four-day seminar in Iraq next week designed to draw world attention to the need to lift the U.N. embargo on the Iraqi people, according to the head of Iraq Caritas liaison office in Jordan Reverend Mousa Adeli.

The Jordanian delegation,

which leaves for Baghdad today, will be joined there by participants from the Vatican. and church representatives from Europe, North and South America and the Middle East. as well as a team from the Middle East Council of Churches. Rev. Adeli 10ld the Jordan Times.

Starting in Baghdad under the theme: "The church in the service of peace and humanity." the seminar will continue at Mosul in the northern Ninawa governorate where the delegates will review the general situation in Iraq resulting from the embargo and tackle urgent problems such as starvation and shortages of basic medicines, according to Rev. Adeli. He said that the Roman Catholic Church's position with regard to the consequences of the U.N. embargo on Iraq will feature in the discus-

sions in which religious as well

as lav people will take part. "With this meeting we aim to raise our voices high, demanding an end to the unjustified sufferings of the Iraqi people who are facing starvation and to urge world organisations to help bring the fouryear sanctions to an end." added Rev. Adeli.

The head of the Roman Catholic Church in Jordan. Bishop Salim Sayogh, is leading the Jordanian delegation to the meeting.

the man left, he checked for

his wallet and discovered it

was missing. He said the wal-

let contained some personal

papers and JD 240. Mr. Suleiman looked at

photographs of possible sus-

pects from police files and

was able to point out the

suspect who police identified

only as T.A.M. Police de-

clined to reveal any further

information regarding the

Jordan Times that such inci-

dents are common, and it

occurs in different parts of

the Kingdom.

A PSD official told the

#### Police search for defrauder

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN — Ghor Al Safi police are searching for a man who on Saturday defrauded a 55-year-old shopkeeper of JD 240, according to the Public Security Department (PSD) reports.

The report said the victim. Hamed Suleiman, was working in his shop when a man entered and asked him whether there was a traditional healer (mujaber) in that area.

Mr. Suleiman told police that the man told him that he had broken his arm and had asked him to feel it, then the

suspect left the shop.

The victim said that when

He said in many cases.

defrauders victimise elderly people and use similar

ررين تاييز يهية عربية سيلسبة سيتكة نصدر بالاتجليزية عن للؤسسة المسطية الأريشيّة

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Facsimile: 696183

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#### Fit for walk

SIDEWALKS are normally made for walking. In Jordanian cities and towns sidewalks are made for cars to park. When sidewalks are not used for car parking, they cannot, for the most part, be used by pedestrians because they are obstructed by trees, construction material or potholes. People who must walk or enjoy taking a walk cannot find a place to do so and end np walking on the streets. No wonder pedestrian-related road accidents are on the rise.

What can be done to remedy this alarming situation is plenty, provided there is a will to tackle this problem seriously and effectively. To begin with, city municipalities together with the traffic department can pool their resources to remove existing obstacles on sidewalks, be they cement, iron bars or sand. No construction licences should be issued without assurances that sidewalks are kept free from hindrances. The experience of the more advanced world can surely be put to use in this endeavour. When builders do not comply with city ordinances on this subject, they must be prosecuted, fined or even imprisoned in view of the hazards they pose to citizens. Trees beautifying our streets and roads need to be trimmed once in a while so that their branches do not poke the eyes of unsuspecting pedestrians. This much does not require great ingenuity provided there is a will to deal with. And what could make the sidewalks, safer is the enactment of legislations empowering pedestrians with the right to sue municipalities for any damage sustained because of unsafe sidewalks. Maybe then our authorities would start to take the problem more seriously.

The courts of the land must also be prepared to take up complaints submitted by people who sustain one kind of damage or another while walking our sidewalks. Admittedly we have vet to develop a legal culture that would encourage the collection of stiff damages caused by unsafe road and sidewalk conditions. As long as the loss of life and the incurring of bodily harm continue to be taken lightly by our judiciary, there can be no hope of convincing our local authorities and construction workers to take more seriously their obligations to keep our sidewalks safe and fit for human

#### **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

IT IS premature to judge the tripartite talks involving Jordanian, Israeli and American officials in Washington and speculate about the implementation of the Jordanian-Israeli common agenda signed last September, said Al Ra'i daily Monday. Jordan has shown all good intentions for giving an impetus to the peace process and has sincerely worked towards the establishment of a just peace, acceptable to the future generations, said the paper. But, it said, the continued presence of U.S. naval forces in the Gulf of Aqaba and Israel's obtinate stand vis-a-vis the implementation of the common agenda have been obstructing the talks. However, with the U.S. decision to end the inspection of ships, Jordan sees no barm in testing anew the Israeli intentions and its readiness to give back occupied Jordanian lands and waters, said the daily. Jordan is also prepared to exert serious efforts to acheive progress along all the Arab-Israeli tracks with the aim of attaining a comprehensive settlement, added the daily. But for that to happen, the paper said, prior coordination among the Arab parties is of paramount importance.

SULTAN AL Hattab, a columnist in Al Ra'i, said the salary increases for public servants can by no means help them deal with the soaring prices of various commodities. The writer said that the government ought to revise the scale of salaries regularly in order to help its employees keep np with inflation. However, the government's decision to revise the scale each year is a welcome development, and its intention to pay more to the more competent employees is an encouraging move. said the writer. But, he said, it is feared that the system would not work well and confusion could be the result with favours done to those who do not actually deserve a bonus. Therefore, the writer suggested the government be called on to lay down specific criteria for the implementation of government plans to ensure sound reform of the public administration structure.

The View from Fourth Circle

By Rami G. Khouri

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## Politics, culture and angels of illusion

America, the more convinced I become of the importance of culture — specifically, the importance of cultural values and social traditions as the bases for political systems, whether in our Arab region or elsewhere in the world. This will become asingly relevant for us in the years to come, as it becomes clear that the extent and depth of the contemporary Arab crisis of governance and nationhood will only be resolved by a resort to powerful assets within our own societies. We will have to find inspiration and sustenance by turning to the root components of our own ancient cultures, because other instant miracle cures will have been seen to be angels of illusion.

miracle cures will have been seen to be angels of illusion. This century has clearly documented the vigorous but so far failed Arab quest for four essential elements: 1) rational nationhood that allows people to express their identity and to feel that their human dignity and their government are not in opposition to one another; 2) a natural and sustainable balance between the indigenous, traditional power centres of society, namely the religious establishment, the merchants, the military and the political alita: 2) political/accounts. the military, and the political elite; 3) political/economic structures that promote confidence, investment, productivity, creativity, and trade, thereby improving people's living standards and giving them greater hope for the future of their children; and, 4) a fair, mutually satisfying relationship with foreign, mainly Western, powers, but also with regional non-Arab actors such as Iran, Turkey and Israel.

The Arabs have been seeking answers to these challenges of political stability, sensible governance, urbanism, environ-ment and economy for the past several hundred years — ever since the moment in the 16th or 17th century when Arab/ Islamic civilisation was overtaken by a Western civilisation that had become technologically, commercially and intellec-

tually more dynamic.

In time, culture will provide the vital foundation for the answers we seek, because throughout this century we have tried to find the answers in other areas, without success. In the first and second quarters of the century and the early days of "independence," we thought the Arab modern state - born in the minds and drawn on the napkins of European politicians - would lead to a better life. But statehood was not the full answer. Euro-style statehood imposed on an ancient Arab society only resulted in grotesque distortions of power, money and arms in the hands of a few people who ruled the modern state according to the ancient rules of oriental patriarchy.

In the second and third quarters of the century, a dual response to the thin credibility of the state and to the challenge of Western-supported Zionism, many Arabs turned to pan-Arab nationalism as the solution to our problems. But pan-Arabism fell short of its promise because it was never llowed to find expression in the will and sensibilities of the Arab people themselves. It was hijacked and monopolised by the same Arab leaderships that had exercised state power as a personal fief. Arab nationalism was disfigured into empty

slogans of unity by leaders who feared unity because it threatened their self-imposed, non-accountable incumbency,

and would force them to share or give up power. In the early years of the fourth quarter of this century, when the oil boom struck in the second half of the 1970s, many Arabs suddenly became disillusioned with ideology and turned instead to the allure of money and material goods. They thought that "development" and "investment" were the answers the Arabs had long sought. But these, too, proved fickle and retributive gods; they provided luxury and comfort for a small number of Arabs in the 1970s, but poverty, debt and agony for the majority of Arabs in the 1980s.

In the last quarter of this century, abandoned by the cash

god, many Arabs sought comfort and salvation in their authentic spirituality and their long-serving and credible god: they turned to Islam as the answer. But Islam has proved the successful as a political force and a system of governance than it has as a system of spirituality and morality; this is because Islam is a religion, and not an ideology or a package of management software, and, like all other religions, it is less effective at running states than it is at providing a moral code for personal and communal behaviour and at answering the

big question, of life.

Islamist politics has swept through our region in a dramatic Islamist politics has swept through our region in a dramatic manner in the last 15 years — since the overthrow of the Shah of Iran — but now appears unable to resolve the great contemporary challenges of oriental statehood. Iran, Saudi Arabia and Sudan, the three states in our area that formally operate according to Islamist political doctrines, are not exactly shining models of relaxed governance that others are clamouring to copy. (Other Middle Eastern states based on religion are not doing so well either, notably Lebanon and lease).

The experience of Islamists as part of the government system in other Arab states — Jordan, Lebanon and Yemen — has not been particularly impressive. Here in Jordan, the Islamists, who joined Mudar Badran's government in the early 1990s, not only were ordinary in their performance; they also succeeded in generating active, sometimes even populist, opposition to their focus on rather peripheral issues, such as whether girls should wear sports shorts in primary school or whether men should cut women's hair. The Islamists in Jordan found themselves being openly criticised in the press, when only a year before they were treated as politically sacred. So they stayed out of the next government, and retreated to the relative comfort of their role as a loyal opposition. Their vocal rejection of the Arab-Israeli peace process has been totally ignored and ineffective, here and in Palestine. In the 1993 Jordanian elections, they lost much of their power in Parlia-

The evidence is mounting that political Islam has been an effective means to challenge the old Arab political order, but a far less effective governance system that can respond to our huge and worsening national needs. Having tried the state, pan-Arabism, commercialism and Islam as possible solutions, and found them all wanting in one way or another, the Arab people continue to look to other answers to their national predicament. I believe they will look to culture and tribalism in the short term, for these are the last lines of defence for a society under sustained stress.

Any political changes we adopt will have to be culturally authentic and relevant if they are to succeed. Western-style democracy, pluralism and human rights are now on offer as the latest solution to our needs, and they enjoy the added advantage of being politically correct values in the West, especially in Washington. Here is where the role of culture comes in, for political life must mirror cultural life, and our cultural values are rather different from Western cultural

values in key ways: 1) Western society is based on the rights of the individual, while Arab society is based on the rights of the group (family,

sect, tribe, religion, etc.).

2) Western society has one law for all people, while Arab society has several different laws for different groups (in Jordan, we simultaneously use civil law, formal Shari'a law, Christian church laws for Christians' civil status issues and traditional tribal law).

3) Western society is based on the equality of all people, while Arab society is based on a series of unspoken but enduring hierarchies that give different rights and obbigations to different groups of people (Arab-non Arab, Muslim-non Muslim, man-woman and old-young among others).

4) Western society is egalitarian and horizontal in terms of people's rights and duties, and power flows from the bottom to the top, while Arab society is patriarchal and vertical and power flows from the top to the bottom.

5) Western society separates church and state and explicitly promotes "civil society" as an important space between the individual and the state, while in Arab society the separation of religion and society is less clear, and the traditional role of civil society structures is less obvious. The West worships secularism, while Arab society generally fears it.

These and other basic differences mean that we cannot

blindly copy Western democratic systems. Rather, we have to discover how our cultural values and social traditional correspond to the key principles of Western democracy: pluralism, participation and accountability. I would suggest that these three principles are deeply entrenched in Arab/Islamic culture, but they are expressed in a different manner than in Western political systems.

Finding this synthesis between Arab and Western political and social culture should be an urgent mission for like-minded Arabs and Westerners who wish to replace confrontation and fear with a shared morality of human dignity as the common heritage of our civilisations and the operative principles of our systems of national governance.



### Croats, Muslims grope towards normality on former war fronts

By Helen Despic-Popovic Agence France Presse

ZEPCE, Bosnia — A short time ago Iko, a Croat, and Selim, a Muslim, were enemies who squinted ar each other down the barrels of guns from trenches just 50

Now they lounge in the sun on the Previla crest which dominates this small town. sharing a punnet of cherries with six other soldiers who have been demobilised and are free to return to their "ethnically purified" villages in the wake of a three-monthold agreement to form a Muslim-Croatian federation.

Previla, formerly a Croatian pocket, now boasts one of the United Nations observation posts controlled by peacekeepers.

Since a ceasefire took effect before the federation agreement, the trenches have become part of a buffer zone where peacekeepers from the British U.N. battalion make

daily patrols on foot.
"Nothing to report." say
Iko. Selim and the other demobilised troops who are charged with checking that no incidents occur. "It's easy

to talk among soldiers." In the evening Iko goes back to his village of Orahovica, which has only one Muslim-owned house, empty for the past year. He says he cannot imagine his neighbour returning while people still

have blood on their hands." Major Richard Kemp of the British battalion meets daily with local commanders from both sides to brief them on developments.

They seem to get on better and better with each other." he commented. "I'd almost say there's a certain amount of cooperation." easily as military matters."
Three months after the Washington agreements. which laid the foundation for the new federation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the only sort of contact civilians from the former opposing sides are allowed to have are family visits lasting a maximum of one week.

"Three months after Washington agreements, which laid the foundation for the new federation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the only sort of contact civilians from the former opposing sides are allowed to have are family visits lasting a maximum of one week."

Captain Drago Dragicevic. of the Bosnian-Croat Forces (HVO) 111th brigade, who until last autumn led joint operations with Bosnian-Serb troops against the Muslims.

does not mince words. Asked what he thinks about the future of the Croat-Muslim federation. he said: "I'm a soldier, I follow orders. Politics are not my

His Bosnian opposite num-ber, Capt. Jusuf Musirbegovic described himself as "more optimistic than scep-tical" but he "would like to see civilian issues progress as

On both sides, scores of refugees wait in hope of returning to homes that were torched or are now occupied by other people.

U.N. peacekeepers are expecting an eventual recon-ciliation and British members of the Royal Anglian Regiment busy themselves cleaning up a school in the nearby village of Novi Seher, devas-tated when Serb forces passed through, and which is due to serve as a joint Croatian Muslim school.

At a crossing point be-tween Zepce and the neigh-bouring Muslim Lown of

Maglaj. where a British armoured vehicle is parked. Croat and Muslim police officers check the rare

travellers. A Muslim family returning from Tuzla — Their first trip away for the two years the town was besieged - elicit no interest from the police who galance briefly at their

At Maglaj, the deputy commander of the Bosnian battalion, fsmet Bradavic. compared the federation to a marriage of convenience, a dissuasive weapon against the common enemy, the Serbs. whose front position stand less than 500 metres away

Cooperation so far has been limited to a few deliveries of arms. "The Croats are still a long way from lending us tanks, let alone carrying out joint operations." he

The front remains active. For the past month, the mainly-Muslim Bosnian Army troops from the nearby town of Tesanj. 10 kilometres west of Jaglaj, have been pushing west in the direction

of Serb positions at Teslic. Capt. Charles Mayo, commander of the U.N. base at Maglaj, said he could not confirm the report of arms deliveries. "We don't search all vehicles." he said, adding.
"anything that's not contested by one side or the

### Month of war stirs Arab disarray

By William Madean Reuter

ADEN — Residents of Aden shake their heads in disgust whenever they hear on the radio that their northern Yemeni opponents have pro-fessed a desire for peace.

They say the thunderous shelling that periodically shakes the approaches to their city, capital of a newself-proclaimed southern state, is a far better indication of northern intentions.

A month into Yemen's civil war, hard-pressed soutberners are waiting for international outrage to mount at the assault on Aden by conservative northerners vowing to strangle at birth the secular breakaway state announced on May 21.

They want their friends in the Arab World, notably Egypt and Gulf Arab states. to pile pressure on Sanaa to all off its attack and settle political differences around a

They have appealed for international recognition of their "Democratic Republic of Yemen," so far without success, but their envoys are received warmly in the Gulf. They say they have already

raken delivery of fresh arms supplies from foreign sympathisers.

But they face politically astute opponents who have loudly expressed a desire for peace while sraying silent on the havoc and bloodshed their troops' advance has wrought on regions of the poorer and less populous

It is a strategy every south-erner understands. "The northerners are attacking without saying they are attacking. They don't want to be seen as the bad guys." said Nasser, an office clerk.

Sanaa has said it is ready to implement a resolution passed by the U.N. Security Council last Wednesday but has stopped short of saying whether it would accept a ceasefire for talk to the southern leaders it condemns as rebels.

The South's better trained forces have steadily lost ground around Aden to troops loyal to the northern President Ali Abdullah Saleh. largely because they were caught by surprise at the war's outset and because they are far outnumbered.

"In a fairly low-tech war like this, numbers count, said a Gulf-based military expert. 'It's all about getting the men into the field and maintaining a bare minimum of supply.

"There are enough weapons, but no enough men to work them," goes a com-

monly-heard complaint. Mr. Salem has vowed to Freserve the union he created with former Marxist South Femen in 1990 in a move widely seen with hindsight as a marriage of economic convenience for the South.

The southern political elite, which compromised most to make unity work, says southerners are better off as a separate state that might eventually forge vague confederal links to Sanaa.

They accuse Mr. Saleh of being a classic reactionary despot who rules his own people by terror and plans to colonise the South through manipulation of Muslim militant and tribal groupings. Reports that Sanaa has re-

ceived help from Iraq Sudan and Muslim militant veterans of the Afghan war against Soviet occupation have only reinforced southerners' worst

They say the Arab leader whose style mostly closely matches Mr. Saleh's uncompromising temperament is Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. They say Mr. Saich's thrust south was accompanied by the same rhetorical flourishes as Baghdad's 1990

invasion of Kuwait. Mr. Saleh says most southerners want to preserve the union and would back his men if only a handful of power-hungry southern leaders were forced to flee or were arrested or killed.

Analysts say several elements are working in the South's favour, despite its apparently poor military prognosis.

Aden residents note that their breakaway government is a coalition of the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP), which ruled Marxist South Yemen. and some of its most vociferous former opponents. They say this alliance shores up the political cohesion of Aden's

Another plus is the private sympathy for the South among Gulf rulers anxious to prevent a revival of Iraqi influence in the region barely three years after the 1991

"If you ask how far Gulf states would go to block pro-Iraqi forces in the area, the short answer is 'quite a long' way'." said a Western source familiar with key players in

robustly the South can hold out against northern pressaberes : March Tedrorion of the Control of th

Employed that it is a final of the same of

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"Much depends on how ure." the source said.

#### Sanaa declares ceasefire

(Continued from page 1) Yemen," he said, adding that n as possible to their interest ... at least to be y or another the continues of defeate to

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali was dispatching an envoy, Algerian diplomat Lakhdar Ibrahimi, to Sanaa an chooy, Algerian diplomat Lakhdar Ibrahimi, to Sanaa this week to look into ways of solving the month-old conflict. Sanaa had been expected to officially accept the U.N. ceasefire the role of solving the month-old conflict. Sanaa had been expected to officially accept the U.N. ceasefire the role of solving the month-old conflict. The northern leadership has become more amenable to negotiations to end the fighting

negotiations to end the fighting is of the groups, down outside Aden. since initial expectations of a lightning victory got bogged

all people, which is different grown. Mr. formula Shank. The ceasefire announce ment, quickly hailed by Dr. Abdul Meguid as a "positive first step," came after a day of civil states intense fighting on two main fronts near Aden and shelling equality of all contents of the city itself, which contents and object of the city itself, which contents among orders.

Shells landed every two or the contents of the city itself, which cont

among others).
d horizontal in the lows from the box sar district near Aden airport, archal and venio which has been a prime target for northerners trying to and state and each ground southern warplanes.

tant space better At least eight were confirmed dead in the shelling and ambulances were criss-crossing d the traditionic the city, while six others died as. The West of as firefighters tried to save the city's main oil refinery after it mean that we was bombed and set ablaze. ems. Rather, web

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A southern military spokes-A southern military spokessocial tradings of man said the city's anti-aircraft
in democracy in the defenses shot down two attackould suggest in the first manner that there down wounded in the
ifferent manner that there down of fighting in past three days of fighting in oil-rich Shabwa province.

Witnesses in Aden reported southern positions loosing off heavy anti-aircraft fire on Monday afternoon. They said one incoming missile fell into the sea near the city's port.

Black smoke drifted from Aden's refinery, hit twice on Sunday by what the south said

were northern air raids. New cbeckpoints sprang up in Aden's streets and traffic was

Many of the 350,000 residents queued for bread, water and petrol for the first time since the civil war started on

Armed civilians and soldiers patrolled streets in northern suburbs. The atmosphere was tense but there was little panie.

The military situation on Monday in villages north of Aden was not clear although the fighting had caused many casualties. Before the ceasefire state-

ment, the International Com-

mittee of the Red Cross was trying to organise an evacuation of foreigners to Djibouti.
As shells landed near ships. 100 Somali refugees gathered at Aden port trying to leave, uncertain whether Djibouti would accept them and worried about returning to their

own land of strife. Northern leaders said Sunday they had put their acceptance of the ceasefire "on hold" because of perecived Saudi threats to intervene in the con-

Yemen was formed when the north and south merged into a single state in May 1990. The union was popular hut beset by cultural and ideological differences and a power struggle between President Saleh, a northern, and Mr. Beidh.

After months of skirmishing. civil war hroke out on May 4, shattering the four-year-old merger of the country, on the southwestern tip of the Arabian Peninsula.

Saudi Arabia was unhappy with a unified, democratic Yemen, which it apparently saw as a threat to its own autocrane rule and traditional domination of the region. The Saudis attempted to undermine Yemen hy arming Yemeni tribes and bankrolling politicians in

### Lebanon seeks Israeli guarantees

(Continued from page 1)

Lebanon Army (SLA), have controlled a "security zone" along the international border since 1985.

Lebanese troops fired antiwater the character against a state of the character against the country against the c over the coast north of Beirut overnight, security sources

None of the helicopters, flying in from the Mediterranean over the port of Jounieh. were hit, and they then flew over mountains to the cast and reached the Bekaa Valley,

they said. Meanwhile, a Fijian U.N. peacekeeper bas died of gunshot wounds be suffered last week in a clash with the guerrillas that occurred during the height of the latest confrontation between Israel and Hizbollab, U.N. spokesman Timur Goksel said.

Mr. Bouez's statement came as rocket and artillery exchanges in South Lebanon between Israeli forces and Hizbolah guerrillas dwindled to sporadic skirmishes.

### Lloyds accord expected

(Continued from page 1)

All cargo addressed to consignees in Iraq will be inspected separately for adherence to the sanctions and those consignments will be allowed to leave the port only after approval by the Sanctions Committee wherever neces-

Food and medicine are exempt from the sanctions and therefore do not need sanctions approval. Other items related to the production and distribution of food and medicine are also allowed, but they should have prior Sanctions

Committee approval. It is expected that the Lloyds presence at Aqaba will cost nearly \$3 million for the first year. Importers will pay the cost on the basis of the tonnage of their imports and the amount will be remitted to a special account, which in turn one forms a will be linked with an as-yet nated . escrow account at the U.N. at the disposal of

the secretary-general. The sources noted that such an arrangement will bave clear

transparency of the amount that Jordanian importers pay and allow the importers to apply for compensation of equal amount from the U.N.

Diplomatic sources said the United States, the most hardline advocate of the sanctions against Iraq, had agreed to most of the points. No details were immediately available of disagreements if any.

Washington accepted the proposal to replace the seabased inspection of Aqaha-bound vessels by U.S. warships with a land-based verification system in April. The acceptance came after Jordan made its return to peace talks with Israel conditional on an end to the inspections, which cost the Kingdom more than \$1 billion since the sanctions against Iraq

were imposed in August 1990. Importers and shipping agents have welcomed the Lloyds arrangements saying it would not only ease their financial hurdens and logistical problems but will also encourage shipping lines to resume their regular services to

### Jordan, Israel start talks

(Continued from page 1)

projects in the Jordan Valley. Israeli-Jordanian peace efforts have largely been put on the hack burner as Israel has engaged in intense negotiations with Syria and the Palestinians,

However, with Palestinian self-rule in Jericho and the Gaza Strip being implemented, the opportunity now exists to move forward on the Jordanian track once again, diplomats said.

One of the trickiest problems facing the Israelis and Jordanians is the question of control over water, particularly the source of the Jordan and Yarmuk rivers.

Jordan said Saturday it had indications Israel was ready to discuss border demarcation of these disputes with Amman-'The Israeli side has shown readiness to discuss that issue

within the framework of a bilateral working group dealing with land, borders and secur-Information Minister

Jawad Al Anani told reporters. The Kingdom has heen pressing Israel for months to accept the idea of fixing frontiers with Jordan and setting up a joint commission on border demarcation and delineation in line with maps of Britishmandated Palestine.

But Israeli officials said they were adamantly opposed to border demarcation.

Citing the start of Palestinian self-rule, Dr. Anani said Amman was ready to take a more assertive line in its talks with Israel to prevent its role from being "marginalised."

Dr. Anani announced that

the Washington talks would discuss prospects of economic cooperation and future studies and projects to develop the

#### Peres discloses pledge

(Continued from page 1) significance of Jerusalem for the monotheistic beliefs and will continue to respect the unique value of the city for

Jews, Christians and Muslims," Mr. Peres said. The official said the missive was intended to remain secret but after Mr. Arafat and other Palestinians alluded to written pledges on Jerusalem the deci-

sion was taken to release the contents. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rahin last month strenuously denied such a letter existed when Mr. Arafat declared he had received a written under-

taking on Jerusalem. "There is no secret agreement. There is no document which has not been published. Everything has been made public," Mr. Rabin told parlia-

ment on May 12. The right-wing opposition charged he was lying during a bitter debate.

On May 30, Mr. Rabin appeared to climh down, tell a parliamentary committee: According to my information, Arafat has received only a piece of a speech by Peres on the freedom of religion and access to Muslim boly places in

Amid growing controversy over Jerusalem, Faisal Husseini, the PLO leader on the West Bank, confirmed the existence of secret Israeli undertakings.

Mr. Husseini said: "There is a letter from Israel and the question of Jerusalem and the PLO institutions in the city and on other subjects. I cannot say any more."

A close aide to Mr. Peres told AFP: "He has committed two errors. First he denied this letter existed when it does exist and he should have published it when it was sent,

"At that time no one would have paid it any attention. "Now it will pour oil on the flames and the right will use the story against us,"

Right-wingers are preparing major campaign to keep Mr. Arafat out of Jerusalem and intend to throw a buman cordon around the city.

The PLO leader was expected to visit the autonomous enclave of Jericho in the middle of this month. However, at the weekend he suggested further delays nnless donor countries came up with money for antonomy.

#### Intifada ends in autonomy

(Continued from page 1) The foreign observer force in Hebron is weighing an early departure from the violence-

torn city, Israel television re-A spokesman for the more than 100-member Temporary International Presence in Hebron denied the report but acknowledged they faced some difficulty carrying out their

peacekeeping mission. The observers from Denmark, Norway and Italy deployed May 8 with a threemonth mandate. They were ordered by the PLO following the Feh. 25 Hebron mosque massacre when a Jewish settler shot and killed more than 30

Palestinians while at prayer in the Ibrahimi Mosque. Clashes between Israeli soldiers and stone-throwing youths ensue on nearly a daily basis. Soldiers imposed a curfew Sunday on the town after confrontations with stonethrowing youths in which at least four Hebron youths were

reported injured. Sixteen Palestinians were wounded in similar clashes on

The television said the observer force was considering an early pullout because of the persisting violence, which it

hasn't managed to contain. - The PLO is trying to find the bodies of three Israeli soldiers killed during the 1982 invasion of Lebanon, the justice "minister" of the Palestinian self-rule authority said. "Israel, Syria and the United

States know the area where icthey died and we are ready to help them in the search," Freih Abu Middain said.

Zakaria Baumel, Zvi Feldman and Yehuda Katz died during the battle of Sultan Yaakub in the Bekaa Valley of eastern Lehanon. "Yaser Arafat gave orders

to find them a long time ago, but it's difficult. The bodies were buried during the fighting," said Mr. Middain, a lawyer.

- The Israeli military administration has settled the \$13 million electricity debts which Palestinians have run up on the Gaza Strip, a spokesman for

the electricity company said. With the slate wiped clean, the Palestinians have told the Israelis they intend to find alternative energy sources. spokesman Rafi Ben Sira said. The authority plans to use a Canadian ship anchored off Gaza to supply the Strip. The vessel uses gas turbines to generate 120 megawatts.

- The new Palestinian autbority "will very shortly" start issuing identity cards in Gaza and Jericho, a PLO lead-

"They will be given first to members of the police force and to Palestinians who have renurned home recently," said Zakaria Al Agha, who will be housing "minister" in the au-

thority. The rest of the population would get the cards to replace Israeli military administration documents within three



in its peak (AFP photo)

### Azeris resigned to losing Karabakh

By Lawrence Sheets

BAKU - The streets are bustling, the cafes and restaurants are busy and the stores are filled with goods, but, make no mistake, Baku is the capital of a country on the verge of a comprehensive

military defeat. For the last year the Azeri army has been dealt one defeat after another in its sixyear war over the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, a chunk of land it technically controls but which is populated mostly by ethnic

Armenian forces have broken out of the enclave to swallow up huge tracts of land in Azerbaijan proper. Nearly one million Azeri refugees - one in seven of the country's population - have been created.

One might have thought the country would be in the grips of a wave of nationalist sentiment given the magnitude of such problems. But the mood is one of apathy and a sombre acceptance that the enclave may have been lost forever. During the first

the war thousands of angry demonstrators would gather on the city's main square in heady shows of patriotism, punching the air with their fists in cries of "Karabakh is ours." Now the only reminder that the conflict goes on is the endless parade of government war propaganda directed against Armenia in the official press.

In Armenia, spiritual patron of the Karabakh Armenians who have driven the Azeris ont of the mountainous territory, a fierce anti-Azerbaijan campaign is waged daily in the press. But the similarities end

In Yerevan, the war has brought a crippling energy crisis that reduces power supplies to homes to a couple of hours a day, but government officials boast that they have militarised the entire economy and will spare nothing for Karabakh.

Baku, built on the Caspian Sea shoreline, bustles with life and - rare for the Transcaucasus — restaurants are open after dark. The private sector is booming and shops are crammed with imported and domestic goods. The country is on the verge

of signing buge deals with foreign oil companies which will develop its offshore fields a period of economic boom. Government officials openly admit they are fighting not only a crisis on the

battlefield, hut a crisis in

spirit.
Technically all 18 to 40 year old males are subject to military conscription. In reality few serve, due to a mix of draft evasion and official cor-Baku's cafes, street vendor

stalls and food markets are teeming with men falling into the military age category. When asked why they are not at the front, they produce small documents called "spravka" excusing them from service, mainly for

medical reasons.

Serkhai Mamedov stood selling imported foods on one of the city's main thoroughfares. Asked why he wasn't fighting, despite frequent roundups by authorities, he produced a sheet of white paper with official stamps by way of explanation.
"I have a contusion," he

said. Within about 20 metres of him there were three other men who gave the same "Seventy per cent of the

population will tell you privately that they would give up Karabakh if the Armenians would pull out of the other territories in Azerbaipied," said one local journal-

The Armenians now control 20 per cent of Azerbaijan, including Karabakh, and

are slowly creeping deeper into its territory.

It is hard to imagine how the Azeris could give up much more ground and still not be forced to sign some sort of conciliatory peace deal. The all important city of Evlakh, a railroad, and energy junction, hes only 20 km from the front lines. It was 40

km away this time last year. Officially President Haydar Aliyev's government is not admitting defeat yet, but the latest compromises in peace talks suggest it realises just how bleak things look. Azeri representatives have for the first time recognised

the enclave's government as a party to the conflict. Both sides say a Russian plan to place peacekeepers around the region, coupled with an Armenian withdrawal from the areas adjacent to Karabakh, is bound to be signed soon, despite resistance in Azerbaijan from

opposition groups. On the front, ohviously poorly trained soldiers yield more and more territory. They tell bow they have been pushed back several rimes during the past few months, a the Azeri front-lines.

"Tell the Armenians that we will win anyway," one says, earnestly but unconvin-

## Religious right feeds on American's needs

By Gretchen Cook

Agence France Presse WASHINGTON - Democrats are pushing to get gays in the military, condoms in schools and the abortion pill on the market but the religious right is fusing the sacred with the secular for an

attack on all fronts. The Christian Defence Coalition (CDC) has set up a fund for Paula Jones' sexual barassment suit against Presi-dent Bill Clinton and evangelist Jerry Falwell is hawking videotapes of the accuser discussing the very acts he has lobhied to keep

off the airwaves. Once apolitical fundamentalist Christians are now running for school board seats from which they hope to revamp sex education prog-rammes and replace evolution with creationism on the

curriculum. The Christian Coalition has launched a \$1.4 million campaign to defeat Mr. Clinton's health care reform plan and is mobilising its some 1.2 million members to back measures ranging from school prayer to gun control.

"In the past, people looked at the radicaal right as a minor element but now they are having a major impact on national policy. There isn't an issue that isn't affected." said Pat Lewis, policy director for the National Jewish Democratic Council (NJDC).

Indeed, the religious right has its fingers in many pies, worrying labour leaders about their drive for "right-towork" laws which made union membership optional and frightening environmentalists with legislation to protect businesses against land use regulations.

But the ones they have running the most scared are Democrats who now control both the White House and the Congress and are facing

several tight races in the November mid-term legislative elections.

The Christian Coalition. which has \$18 million earmarked for "political activities," bagged one Democrat last month in a special vote for an empty seat in Kentucky, where a religious book store owner was elected by a land-

The coalition's spokesman Mike Russell attributed that victory to the improving relationship between the Republican Party, which supplied the funds, and the religious groups, which supplied the campaigning foot soldiers.

That alliance was initiated during the 1980 campaign, when Republican mobilised masses of fundamentalist Christians — particularly in the southern "bible belt" to get out the vote for Ronald

But the partnership all but broke down in August 1992, when the religious right wing tried to dictate the party's platform during Republican Convention and former president George Bush's failed

reelection bid. Voters are fearful of extremists in any direction and they saw it right there on prime time television." said Ms. Lewis, who added that the religious right learned a valuable lesson.

They are smart politically and they're getting smarter. she said, noting that the religious right would be fielding a lot of "stealth candidates who are not quite as open about their affiliations.

They will also be toning down their image as biblethumping fundamentalists who are unbending on issues such as school prayer and abortion.

"We have developed a political maturity which allows us to work with different candidates," said Mr.



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### Agaba hopes for dramatic revival in peaceful M.E.

AQABA, Jordan (R) — After years of rising investment but falling demand, Jordan's Red Sea port of Acaba hopes for a future as a !:ey trade conduit to a peaceful, prosperous Middle

"We are talking about a wide market in the Arab World," Dr. Dureid Mahasneb. director-general for Jorcan's only outlet to the sea. said beside the docks stretching south from Aqaba. "There are no limits to where you

would import or export. Dr. Manasnen reels off facilities installed over the past decade: Specialised ports for cement and oil, mechanised handling of grain, a modern container port, more warenouses and plans for a new passenger terminal. New roads oypass Agaba and speed goods to neignbouring countries.

"I think we can easily work at 30 million tonnes a year." said the lifelong resident of the ancient Red Sea town. "We are working on 30 per cent of

TEL AVIV (R) - Israel

announced plans Monday to

sell 51 per cent of its national

airline E! Al in public share

offerings at home and aoroad.

No date was set for the sale

approved by the government's

privatisation committee, but

the transport ministry said it

would take place after the

once-aiting carrier is taken out

of a 13-year-long receivership

in October.
"E! Al is a national carrier

and its shares should be sold to

the public and not to an inves-

for who would be free to do as

Transport Wilnister Visrael

The sell-off is part of a priva-

tisation drive under which the

israeli treasury hopes to pack-

et about \$1 billion this year. Et AJ, a name that has be-

come synonymous with strin-

gent security, comes with some

encess baggage.
It pays \$55 million in annual

security costs ---- 80 per cent

of which is currently met by the

government — and it is

grounded on the Jewish Sab-

bath under a ban demanded by

Mr. Kessar said the state

must retain a "golden share" in

El Al to safeguard the national

interest. In past Arab-Israeli

wars and most recently the 1991 Gulf conflict, El Al kept

sir lines to Israel open when

other airlines stopped flying

Israeli officials did not name

the foreign markets on which

Ei Ai would offer shares, but

industry analysts said New

York was a strong possibility. A transport ministry spokes-

man said the government's pri-

vatisation committee would

decide at a later date how to

dispose of the remaining 49 per

the route.

religious political parties.

he pleased with the critine,"

Kessar told reporters.

national airline El Al

our capacity."

Jordan blamed that situation mainly on the inspections of Agaba-bound ships by the U.S.-led flotilla that has enforced U.N. trade sanctions on Iraq since it invaded Kuwait in

King Hussein's threat to boycott Middle East peace talks unless the "siege" was lifted produced U.S. acceptance in April of a compromise that will replace naval searches with land inspection by a neutral body. Lloyd's List.

tween Lloyd's and the Jordanian government — expected this month — sea searches are

ships were refused entry to Aceba, the cost was high. Ships were delayed and had to reduce cargoes to allow easy searches, insurance rates rose and shioning companies pushed up charges when half the lines stopped coming.

Dr. Mahasneh said lost ton-

El Al has yet to report its 1993 results. However a com-

pany official said the carrier

had net profits last year of

approximately \$10 million and

revenues topping \$1 billion.

Last month Israel appointed

two groups of foreign and local

consulting and accounting firms to carry out separate valuations of the airline.

El Al currently operates an all-Boeing fleet of 22 jets and

recently ordered a third \$150

million Boeing 747-400 Jumbo

jet for delivery in May 1995.

said in April that for its next

order the airline is considering

whether to buy Boeing's new

777 twin-jet, the competing

wD-11 from McDonnell

Douglas Corp. or the Airbus A

He said one of the reasons

for the new order is the pros-

pect for El Al to expand its

service into the rapidly grow-

ing Asian market.
Mr. Harlev predicted El Al

would get the right to fly over

Jordan and Saudi Arabia with-

scheduled service between

New York and Tel Aviv by

three non-stop-round trip

flights per week, effective June

22, because of a dispute with

Israel has refused to autho-

rise flights to Tel Aviv by the

U.S. carrier, saying the airline was offering cut-rate tickets far

authorities.

World Airways.

El Al President Rafi Harlev

nage had cost the country about \$300 million a year in economic activity. And what did arrive cost an extra \$500 for each standard 20-foot (sixmetre) container.

But Agaba will not suddenly boom when naval searches end they were a product of ports by Iraq. For better (most of the 1980s) and for worse (ever since). Aqaba has been linked to the amount imported

became a war zone, Aqaba's business soared. New terminals were built, major bighways were drawn across the desert. Tonnage, which fell below 12 million tonnes last year, peaked in 1989 at some 20

With the end of the war and Iraq's mounting financial difficulties, imports began to taper off. They collapsed when Iraq invaded Kuwait in August

TEL AVIV (AFP) - More

realism and less day-dreaming

about an economic boom

would do Middle East peace

negotiators good, an Israeli strategic studies centre said in

"Even the most comprehen-

sive Middle East peace will not

deliver economic salvation to

the region," warned the Begin-Sadat (BESA) Centre at Tel

Aviv's Bar Ilam University.

"More realism and less day-

dreaming will do Mideast

peace negotiators and their

people a lot of good," said the

study led by Professor Eliyahn

its latest publication.

ing U.N. trade blockade that

Now, Aqaba is counting on a new Middle East.

hold the promise of ending nearly half a century of conflict. Iraq remains under U.N. sanctions, but eventually Iraqi oil will again flow out and imports in.

Syria, which has quietly undergone an economic shift

It will not, of course, mean

role, is confident. He says high productivity in Aqaba means it can undercut competition from Lebanon and Syria's Mediterranean ports, certainly on any goods arriving from Asia. He thinks it can even import European products

more cheaply. Iraq will undoubtedly want direct imports once sanctions are lifted. Late last year it began to take the limited imports allowed, mainly food, through its river port of Umm

But Umm Kasr can take ships of only about 25,000 tonnes and must be dredged continually because of silt. Moreover, it could not handle the volume of imports that many predict when Iraq has the opportunity to make up for

years of shortages.
"I don't think it's for the political reason that the Iraqis will come back to Aqaba, it's for the economic benefits," Dr. Mahasneb said. "Umm Kasr will surely not take more ports."

However, the most obvious role for Agaba in a peaceful Middle East can be seen across the Red Sea waters that sparkle outside his office window.

The port is only a few kilometres from Saudi Arabia and Egypt — and most impor-tantly is beside Israel's only outlet to the Red Sea. Israel, with an even sborter

coastline than Jordan, has squeezed five-star hotels around its small port of Eilat. If economics rather than politics dictate, Agaha's facilities could easily meet Israel's shipping needs.

There hasn't been serious talking about it, but if there is peace everything is possible, the sky is the limit," said Dr. Mahasneh, who is involved in Jordanian-Israeli peace talks.

"Business is for everyone to pick up. I think we would have an excess of capacity that could take anything coming in," he

#### China and Hong Kong become second-biggest investment destinations for Japanese firms

TOKYO (AFP) — China and Hong Kong pushed Britain aside last year to emerge as the higgest destination for Japanese companies making direct investments abroad after the United States, the finance ministry has said.

The ministry said foreign investment applications grew six per cent from a year earlier to \$36.03 billion in the year to March, reversing a three-year slide after outflows peaked at \$67.5 billion four years earlier.

The rebound in Japanese direct investment abroad last year was largely supported by increased flows to European nations, especially the Netherlands, Ireland and Switzerland, the ministry said.

Japanese investment in North and South America also recovered but flows toward the Asia-Pacific region were only modestly higher with investment in most major countries falling with the notable exception of China and Hong Kong.

China replaced Indonesia as the biggest Asian recipient of Japanese investment, absorbing some \$1.7 billion. The figure was up 58 per cent from a year earlier and accounted for 4.7 per cent of Japan's total investment worldwide — the same as Germany, France, Italy and Spain combined.

Japanese investment in Hong Kong, the British colony which reverts to Chinese sovereignty in three years, jumped 68 per cent to \$1.2 billion in the same period, accounting for 3.4 per cent of the total.

With China and Hong Kong, whose economies are becoming increasingly intertwined as the 1997 deadline approaches, soaking up more than eight per cent of total Japanese investment, they surpassed Britain's share of seven per cent.

During the previous year, China and Hong Kong absorbed only 5.4 per cent of Japan's direct investment abroad, well below the British share of 8.6 per cent also less than 6.3 per cent share for Australian which ranked third.

The United States, however, remains the undisputed leader as the most popular investment destination for Japanese companies, accounting for than 40 per cent in both the latest year and the previous year.

In terms of Japan's accumulated foreign investments of almost \$423 billion since 1951, the United States accounts for 41.9 per cent followed by Britain with 7.5 per cent and Australia with 5.4 per cent.

Panama, which has an especially strong Japanese shipping presence, ranks fourth with 4.8 per cent followed by China and Hong Kong with 4.5 per cent. just ahead of the Netherlands with 4.4 per cent.

In the year just ended, Japanese investment flows to the United States and Canada climbed 4.9 per cent from a year earlier to \$15.3 billion.

But Japanese investment in Europe expanded at a faster

pace of 12.4 per cent to reach \$7.9 billion. Despite reduced flows to Britain, investment was up sharply in the Netberlands, Ireland, Switzerland, France and Turkey.

Direct investment in Asia was

only 3.3 per cent higher at \$6.6 billion with increased flows to China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, South Korea and the Philippines offset by declining investment in Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand.

Japan's direct investment in Australia also fell sbarply. dropping 11.4 per cent to \$1.9 billion, the ministry said.

Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean meanwhile climbed 23.6 per cent from a year earlier to \$3.4 billion. For other regions, investment in the Middle East plunged 70 per cent to \$217 million while flows to Africa jumped 126 per cent from a year earlier to \$539

The ministry defines direct investment as money invested by Japanese companies in overseas branches, subsidiaries and affiliates in which they own at least 10 per cent of the equity. Real-estate deals for business purposes are included, but not those for personal use.

According to another report, foreign direct investment in Japan declined 25 per cent from a year earlier to \$3.1 billion in the year to March, despite sharply higher investment from Asia.

Bnoyed by increased flows from companies in Singapore and Taiwan, investment from Asia jumped from \$99 million to \$464 million, boosting its share from 2.4 per cent of the total to 15.1 per cent, the ministry said.

Singapore investment soared from \$18 million to \$268 million and Taiwanese investment rose from \$25 million to \$143 million. Hong Kong investment fell from \$38 million to \$32 million but Chinese investment rose from \$5 million to \$15 million.

A ministry official said the sharp increase in direct investment from Singapore partly reflected the activities of foreign companies in the island republic, which serves as re-gional headquarters for many

Direct investment in Japan from other regions, including the United States and Europe, declined sharply in the same

period. The United States, the largest single investor in Japan. saw its investments decline from \$1.3 billion to \$930 mil-

Total investment from Europe fell from \$1.5 billion to barely \$1 billion, depressed by reduced flows from Britain and

Switzerland. But investment from the Netherlands jumped from \$207 million to \$283 million and investment from Ireland surged from \$0.3 million a year earlier to \$213 million the ministry said.

Aqaba's dependence on im-

Once a contract is signed be-

Although only a few dozen

As Iraq battled Iran from 1980 to 1988 and the Gulf

million tonnes.

1990, precipitating the sweep-

still remains.

Peace talks with Israel, started after the 1991 Gulf war,

toward the private sector. could be a new customer for Aqaba. The port even hopes to ship Asian goods to Lebanon, which is rebuilding after years of civil war.

automatic prosperity for Aqaba even if a peaceful Middle East emerges — a bope injected with a dose of realism when Yemen erupted in civil war last month and reminded everyone of the remaining divisions in the region.

But Dr. Mahasneh, a marine biologist before his current

"It is unlikely that Israel-

Arab peace accords will lead to

any appreciable rise in the re-

gional standard of living, to

substantial cuts in military ex-

penditures, to a sizeable flow

of foreign private investment

or to large scale regional trade

The study admitted that

Arab-Israeli peace accords

would encourage investment

which may contribute greater

But it attacked "the com-

mon wisdom that the 'coming

stability to shaky regimes.

and tourisms."

**Economic benefits of Middle East** peace are a pipe-dream, experts say

> "Arab countries in the region face acute internal economic difficulties, threatening their political stability. The current drains on Israel's economy (military spending and debt) are not about to evaporate either," the study pointed

least in part, the glue which

will make peace agreements

It also noted that not only Israelis but Palestinians too were getting carried away with "inflated expectations," substantiated forecasts can only disappoint and disgruntle, threatening to sour Palestinian Arabs, Israelis and others on the peace process," the study

The BESA centre, named after Israeli prime minister Menachem Begin and Egyptian president Anwar Sadat who brought peace between their two countries in 1978, describes itself as non-partisan and independent, seeking to contribute to the advancement of peace and security.

#### ADB official urges Asia to liberalise interest rates to meet funding needs yield curve.

SINGAPORE (AFP) - Asian countries need to liberalise interest rates to help meet the massive funding needs of in-frastructure development, a top Asian Development Bank (ABD) official said Monday.

in two to three years, cutting Gunther Shulz, ADB's vice three nours from flights bepresident for finance and admitween Israel and East Asia. nistration, said internal fund-But the airline has run into ing, especially through bond turbulence with U.S. aviation Asia's infrastructural funding The U.S. Department of Transportation last week said it was ordering El Al to cut needs, estimated to be \$1 trillion by 2000.

"Bond financing is very suitable for long term infrastructure funding since it provides capital at market-driven fixed interest rates, Bank loans are typically too short and expensive," Mr. Sbulz said.
"However, to make capital

markets work efficiently, monetary policies need to recognise a free interplay of suppand demand, and interest rate policies, therefore, need to be liberalised," he said in a keynote address at the start of a two-day investment confer-

Mr. Shulz said an estimated \$600 million-to-700 million in savings can be tapped through the capital markets, a large part of that through bond mar-

He said governments would also have to pay greater attentradeable securities throughout the maturity structure to create benchmarks for pricing and a

"This is important, for the development of liquidity is a prime consideration for bondmarket investor:," he said.

The ADB has been the pioneer in building up the regional market for so-called Dragon bonds --- bonds issued in Asian countries outside of pan — and has contributed to the development of the Hong Kong dollar bond mar-

### U.N.: S. Africa must bridge gulf in living standards

GENEVA (AFP) — South Africa must bridge the huge difference in living standards between blacks and whites if it is to complete the successful transition to a post-apartheid society, according to an annual U.N. report on economic de-

below realistic prices in an already overcrowded market. velopment. The difference in development between blacks and whites in South Africa is as By Glasbergen great as that between Spain and the Congo, say the authors

of the 1994 report sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), warning of the existence "not of two distinct populations but of two distinct

South Africa stands 93rd in a list of 173 countries ranked according to the standard of living, or HDI - hnman development indicator - in the report.

However the whites would

rank 24th, with the black population in 123rd position if their living standards were

gauged separately.
In its 1993 report, the UNDP had noted widely divergent living standards among whites, blacks and hispanics in the United States. In South Africa, the latest report noted, the divergence is four times as great.

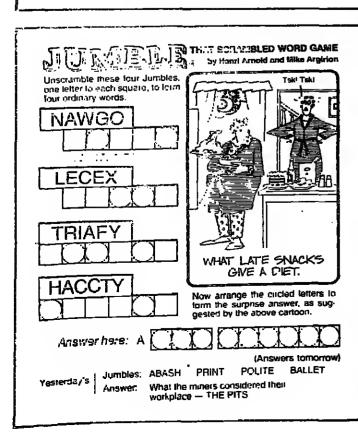
"These disparities contain in themselves the seeds of serious

political, economic and social tronbles," the report said. "They deserve urgent attention from political leaders."

The greatest challenge fac-ing South Africa's leaders, following from the country's first all-race elections last month, will be to aebieve the integration of the less privileged sectors of society without racial violence, the report's authors

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"You spend so much time talking about your feelings, when do you find time to feel your feelings?"



#### Peanuts



AFTER I GOT TO SCHOOL, YOU KNOW WHAT I LEARNED? I LEARNED HOW WIDE THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER 15.

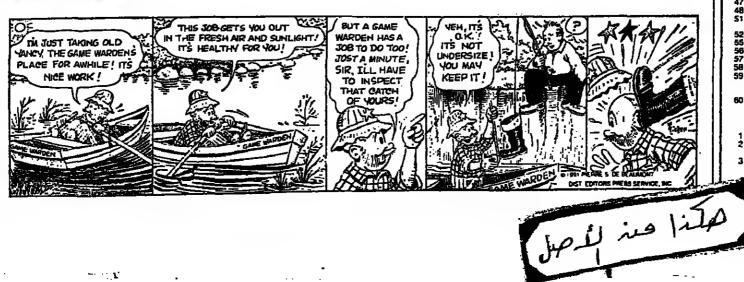




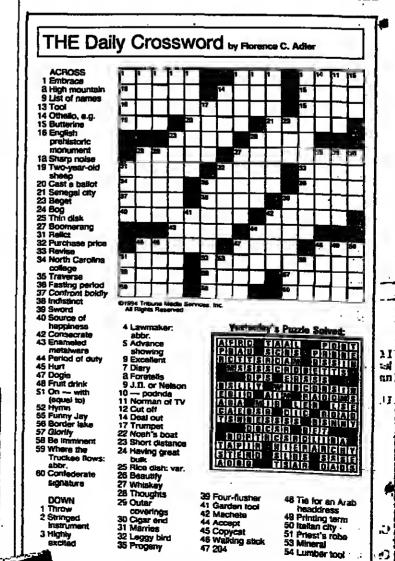
#### Andy Capp



#### Mutt'n'Jeff



### Horoscope not received



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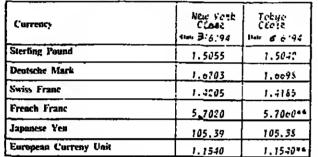
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**Jordan Times** Financial Markets

Cairo Amman Bank U.S. Dollar in International Markets



IND Per STU

Currency	I MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4-0600	4.3100	4.6900	5.2500
Sterting Pound	4.7500	4.9400	4.1300	5.6900
Deutsche Mark	4.9400	4.9400	4.9400	4.9400
Swiss Franc	4.0600	4.1900	4.1900	4.3100
French Franc	5,4400	5.4400	5.5000	5.6600
Japanese Yen	1.8800	1.9400	2.0600	2.2500
European Corrency Unit	5.9300	5.8700	5.8700	5.9300

Precious :	Metals		Date: 5:6/1994		
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm"	Metal	USD Oz	JD Gm
Gold	380.65	7.40	Silver	5.30	0.125

Control Bank	of	Jordan	Exchange	Rate		
					Date:	6-6-1994

Currency	aid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.7000	0.7000
Sterling Pound	1.0510	1.0569
Deutsche Mark	0.4183	0.4204
Swiss Franc	0.4925	0.4951
French Franc	0.1275	3,1931
Japanese Yen <sup>±</sup>	0.5636	0.0069
Dutch Guilder	0.3734	0.3755
Swedish Krona	41	******
Italian Lira	0.0435	G.0437
Belgian Franc ,		4
Ter 100		

Other Currencies	Date: 6.0:1994			
Currency	aid	Offer		
Babraini Divar	1.6400	1.8600		
Lebanese Lira	0.040675	0.042000		
Saudi Riyal	0.1863	0.1885		
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3200	2.3700		
Qatari Riyal	0.1898	0.1909		
Egyptian Pound	0.2050	0.2550		
Omzai Riyal	1.7970	1.8250		
UAE Dirham	0.1598	0.1909		
Greek Drachma	0.2675	0.3175		
Cypriot Pound	1.3250	1.4250		

#### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Monday.

Canadian dollar 1.3770/80 U.S. \$1.00 costs Deutschemarks 1.6706/16 Dutch guilders 1.8728/38 Swiss francs 1.4180/90 Belgian francs 34.39/43 French francs 5.7030/80 Italian lire 1622.8/4.3 Japanese yen 105.34/44 Swedish crowns 7.9159/50 7.2410/60 Norwegian crowns Danish crowns 6.5460/10

\$1.5066/76 One sterling \$379.85/380.25 One ounce of gold

### Survey: Overall economic performance slowed considerably in ESCWA region

By P.V. Vivekanand

Jordan Tintes Staff Reporter AMMAN — Economic growth in most countries in the Middle East remains hostage to the repercussions of the Gulf war of 1991, mainly the international sanctions against Iraq. and the drop in international oil prices, a Linited Nations

A survey conducted by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) of its 13 niember countries showed tht the overall economic performance slowed considerably in those countries except Kuwait in the vear 1993.

A summary of the results of the survey said that the aggregate gross dontestic product (GDP) of the ESCWA countries was estimated to have grown by 3.5 per cent in the year compared with 6.8 per cent in 1992.

"Under the impact of un-favourable demand and price developments, the region's oil revenues in 1993 declined to \$72.5 hillion down from the \$78.1 billion recorded the year before," the summary said. Exceptions were Kuwait and Syria, which managed to increase their oil revenues by 46.8 per cent and 12.6 per cent respectively as a result of higher production.

Total known external debt of ESCWA member countries is estimated to have grown from \$180 billion in 1992 to \$186 billion in 1993, representing about 62 per cent of the region's aggregate GDP.

In general, the survey said, "fiscal developments in the ESCWA region in 1993 were still affected by the ramifications of the Gulf crisis and the sharp drop in oil revenues in the major oil-exporting coun-

In the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, the drop in their mainstay oil revenues "complicated the financial situation ... and added to the budget hurdens, particularly in Saudi Arahia and Oman, the survey said. At the same time, other

ESCWA countries, with the exception of Yemen and Iraq. showed lower than expected hudget deficits. The ESCWA groups all the

Gulf countries except Iran along with Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Iraq, Yemen and Sudan.

The Amnian-based ESCWA attributed the decline in economic growth in its member countries to the drop in international oil prices and revenues and depressed export performances as well as the continued economic sanctions against Iraq "which have not only exacerbated the country's difficulties in restoring the economy to a growth track, but also harmed other countries which have traditionally maintained close economic ties with

Other factors for the econo-

mic stagnation in the ESCWA region, the survey said, included declining tourism revenues in Egypt resulting from extremist attacks on tourists. the political crisis in Yemen where a civil war broke out last month - the generally depressed state of regional cooperation — "despite some re-concibatory tendencies" — and the limited progress achieved in mobilising resources for reconstruction.

On the positive side, the survey found that in many ESCWA member states, Jordan leading among them, economic reform remained a major concern and picked up momentum in 1993.

The U.N. agency also described as positive the economic restructuring programme under way in Egypt, the reconstruction of Lebanon, the one to four per cent controlled inflation in all ESCWA countries except Iraq and Yemen. good agricultural harvests, particularly in Syria, increased private sector activity in the oilproducing Gulf Arab states and capital repatriation to Lehanon and Saudi Arabia.

Kuwait, the survey said, restored its oil output capacity to pre-crisis levels, and generated the 46.8 per cent rise in its oil revenues while Yemen, the least developed ESCWA country, posted a one per cent decline in its GDP.

Despite the increase in overall external debts of ESCWA

member countries, the main debtors among them were faced with less severe debt problems in 1993, the U.N. agency said, noting that Egypt benefited from the debt reduction schemes of the Paris Club of creditor governments while Jordan signed a Brady-style accord with commercial banks for debt rescheduling and re-

duction.
ESCWA member countries increased their share of the world oil market to 24 per cent in 1993 from 22.9 per cent in 1992 while their oil production rose by 4.5 per cent from 14.9 million barrels per day to 15.6 million barrels per day in 1993.

Most banks in the ESCWA region increased their capital in line with international requirements but continued to suffer from non-performing accounts, estimated at \$25 bil-

The region's international reserves, excluding Iraq, Syria. and Yemen, rose from \$36.4 billion in 1991 to \$38 billion in 1992. an improvement ESCWA attributed to a rise of \$5.5 billion in Egypt's reserves offsetting the \$3.8 billion drop in those of the GCC countries.

During the first nine months of 1993, the region's international reserves dropped by \$1.9 billion, "reflecting a further deterioration in the GCC countries' reserves (excluding Oman), where as the reserves of other ESCWA countries increased by \$0.7 billion," the

#### Dollar's decline causes angst for dealers volume on foreign exchange

LONDON (AFP) - Foreign exchange dealers are depressed: Since the beginning of the year, the dollar has declined continuously, contrary to their predictions, and they have had few chances to profit from large-scale speculation such as was seen last year.

Gloom radiated from the 36th meeting of the Association Cambiste Internationale (ACI) which took palce this weekend in London.

"Since the massive currency flows in summer 1992, with the subsequent exit of the pound and the lira from the European Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM), the main market players have not had such a chance to make profits," said David Clark, president of the ACI. Certain bankers believe the

in the early 1990s.

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nished.

markets has dropped by around 10 per cent since the beginning of the year compared with the same period a year earlier — a far cry from the \$1,000 billion traded daily

The main reason has been the absence of a clear trend in the dollar, which has stubbornly refused to climb, despite a

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majority of dealers predicting it would lift to between 1.75 and 1.78 marks from Easter to end of the year.

Indeed, the greenback fell to 1.64 marks at the beginning of

The market also expected the U.S. currency to trade between 112 and 115 yen, but last month it fell to around its all-time low of 100.40 yen.

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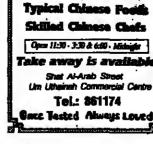






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12-year-old makes

AUGUSTA, Maine (AFP) —
A 12-year-old girl took to the skies Sunday hoping to become the youngest female pilot to cross the Agrantic. "If you put

your mind to it you can accomplish anything," said Vicki Van Meter as she climbed aboard

the single-engine plane at Augusta State Airport, where

some 200 people gathered to see her off. A flight instructor

was also on board for the two-day flight as Van Meter is

too young to fly legally alone.
The two will stop in Canada,
Greenland and Iceland before

landing in Scotland Tuesday, a

path similar to that of Amelia

Earhart, who became the first

woman to fly solo across the Atlantic in 1932. "On this his-

toric day, as you follow in the

footsteps of Amelia Earhart, the thoughts of Mainers will be

with you as you spread your wings, soar above the clouds and land among the pages of history books," Senator Bill Cohen wrote in a letter. Van Meter had other hist amount

Meter had other high profile

well-wishers — including Vice President Al Gore. Last year.

sbe became the youngest female to fly across the country

and hopes one day to become

13:11:25

bid to cross Atlantic

### Rwandan army launches major offensive; U.N. suspends evacuation

KIGALI (R) — Heavy fighting raged across Rwanda Monday as government forces launched a major connteroffensive against rebels, dashing hopes of an imminent end to two months of bloodshed and car-

nage.

A U.N. military spokesman in Rwanda, Major Jean Guy Plante, said it was the first counteroffensive by govern-ment troops in two months and was concentrated in territory north and south of the capital

Kigali.
"It is a major counterattack. They (government forces) want to push back the whole of the RPF (Rwanda Patriotic Frout) forces to the west of the Kigali-Butare Road," he said. "Whether it will work is another story, but they are really trying hard."

Maj. Plante said U.N. operations to evacuate civilians trapped by the fighting were on hold pending the arrival of more fuel for the depleted

He said all U.N. relief flights were cancelled until Friday after mortar bombs hit the airport Sunday, but the U.N. hoped to organise a land con-voy through rebel-held Rwan-da from Uganda with muchneeded supplies.

Heavy fighting raged about 50 kilometres northwest of Kigali, where the rebels were having a hard time with gov-ernment troops caught behind their lines during an earlier RPF advance.

Aid officials estimate more than 500,000 and perhaps up to one million people may have been killed in civil war and massacres since the assassina-tion of Hutn President Juvenal Habyarimana in a rocket attack on his plane on April 6.

The RPF launched its latest offensive after the attack in which neighbouring Burundi's Hutu President Cyprien Ntaryamira also died, saying it was the only way to stop Mr. Habyarimana loyalists massacring all critics and oppo-

In what U.N. officers said was a show of strength to prove they were not yet defeated government troops bombarded Kigali Airport Sunday as a plane carrying an Italian gov-ernment official landed forcing it to flee immediately.

Italian Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Franco Rochetta was arriving for a visit to determine whether Italy should reinforce the U.N. garrison in Rwanda, largely paralysed by fighting.
The U.N. officers said the

firing on the airport showed that security guarantees given to the U.N. could not be Maj. Plante said the U.N.

had put on hold the evacuation

of civilians trapped behind

frontlines in the divided capital

because of a fuel shortage.
It was the second suspension within three days.

The U.N. first suspended

the operation to evacuate thousands of refugees from a local church barely after it had begun Friday when rebels fired on a U.N. convoy carrying refugees to government-held

The U.N. commander in Rwanda, Major-General Romeo Dallaire, said RPF Commander-In-Chief Major-General Paul Kagame had told him that a local commander who ordered the firing had been severely disciplined.

On Sunday, U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali accused the international community of being indifferent to the genocide in the tiny central

"Many states of the world are clearly slacking, and what is new, indifferent," the U.N. chief was quoted as saying in a



camp some 50 km from the Rwandan capital Kigali. Mean-while, Rwandan government forces have launched their first major counterattack and are trying to push rebels of the main road which runs from Kigali to the border with Burundi (AFP

### Philippines blames rebels for bombing

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines (R) — A Philippine military commander Monday blamed Muslim guerrillas for the bombing of a southern commercial centre and ordered his men to capture the rebel leader dead or alive.

Major-General Orlando Soriano said the car bomh that wounded 33 people in Zamboanga Sunday evening was

Khasbulatov

stripped of

Chechenya

MOSCOW (Agencies) - Rus-

lan Khasbulatov, one of the

leaders of an armed nprising

against President Boris Yeltsin

last year, has been stripped of

his right to live in his home

region of Chechnya in sonth-

em Russia, local agencies said.

parliamentary chairman, who

spent five-months in jail after

the rising failed, was accused

by a meeting of the rebel Chechen Republic's leaders of

'collusion with imperial Rus-

It also accused him of

pushing Chechnya, which de-

clared independence of Russia

Two weeks after Yeltsin set

in 1991, towards hloodshed.

aside the constitution and dis-

solved Russia's old Supreme

Soviet parliament last autumn.

Mr. Khasbulatov urged sup-

porters from the balcony of the

legislature to storm the Krem-

The uprising failed and he

was jailed along with other

leaders. After his release from

prison under an amnesty Mr.

Khashulatov said he would

leave politics. After a short

stay with his mother in Chech-

nya he returned to the scien-

tific institute where he worked

before his political career be-

But to some in the politically

divided Chechnya, at the foot of the Caucasus Mountains,

.Mr. Khasbulatov is seen as a

man who could unite opposi-

tion to rebel Chechen leader

Interfax News Agency said

Chechnya will revoke resi-

dence rights for Mr. Khasbula-

tov and several other Chechen

opposition leaders for plotting

against the breakaway Russian

The officials concerned are

accused of "attempting to dis-

mantle the Chechen state" and

of involvement in last month's

failed assassination attempt

against Presidernt Dzkhokar

Dudayev, the Foreign Ministry

it would implement the mea-

A few days after the assas-

sination attempt, in which

three people were killed, Rus-

sian President Boris Yeltsin

declared a state of emergency

in Sunja and Malgobek, regions

of neighbouring Ingushetia which Chechnya claims are its

Other figures who will not

be allowed into Chechnya in-

clude Dokku Zavgayev, par-liamentary speaker of the for-

mer Soviet Republic of

Chechenia-Ingushetia, who

lives in Moscow, and Yaragi

Mamadayev, a former deputy

prime minister and leader of an

opposition "government of national confidence."

Russia of a "new aggression"

this weekend, saying that the

Russian military had deployed

26 belicopters on the state's

southern border.

Chechen authorities accused

The ministry did not say how

was quoted as saying.

Dzhokhar Dudayev.

republic.

Chechen Press said the ex-

right to

live in

sian forces."

intended to divert the military from its four-day-old assault on the hideout of the Muslim fundamentalist Abu Sayyaf Group in nearby Jolo Island.

This is pre-planned by the Abu Sayyaf to lessen the pressure on them... but we will continue our drive, we are going to continue the pressure," the regional commander

"My instruction to soldiers is to get him dead or alive," Gen. Soriano said of rebel leader Abdnrajak Janjalani, who assumed the name Abu Sayyaf (sword of God) after taking command of young Muslim

Police increased patrols around churches, schools, pet-

rol stations and other facilities in Zamboanga, a largely Christian city of 430,000 people, to prevent further attacks.

Military reports said 30 guer-rillas and eight soldiers had died in fighting since 1,400 troops, backed by gunboats and warplanes, launched their offensive on the rebels' mountain stronghold in Jolo Friday.

### Bhutto's brother declares war on party 'hijackers' ISLAMABAD (AFP) - The

to fight those who he said The battle will start now between the real supporters of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and those name," Murtaza told a juhi-

against his sister's government. In a midnight speech Sunday at a rally outside the family's seaside villa on Karachi's Clifton Beach, he said there would

People's Party (PPP). "I will fight for the rights of the oppressed people, the real game has just started," he

ruling Pakistan People's Party (PPP) may be headed for a split as Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and her estranged hrother fight to capitalise on their late father's political lega-

Thousands greeted Murtaza Bhutto, Benazir's hrother, after a court released him from prison on bond late Sunday, where he was being held on six charges of terrorism, subversive activities, sedition and conspiring to topple the gov-After his release he vowed

who misused my late father's liant crowd after winning the first round of a court battle

be only one original Pakistan

added.

He was arrested in November upon bis return from 16 years of self-imposed exile in Damascus. The tall, well-built and younger Bbutto was earlier granted bail in five of the

"There is no iota of evidence connecting the accused with the alleged conspiracy" to overthrow the government, the

> observed while granting hail in the sixth and final case. Murtaza, 38, was charged with infiltrating trained Indian saboteurs into Pakistan in 1992, during the government of former Premier Nawaz

> special anti-terrorist court

Judge Alt Ahmad Junejo

try's main opposition leader.
Thousands of men and women greeted Murtaza when he came out of the Landbi-Jail in suburban Karachi. Some chanted slogans of "goodby Benazir, welcome Murtaza. Addressing the rally, Mr.

overcoming government pressures and granting him bail. "Some people in the goveniment wanted to hang me. They wanted my conviction.

Murtaza praised the judge for

But my release has proved that l am innocent." Urging his sister to leave the

"handits and opportunists," he invited Benazir to join bis fac-Observers said differences

between hrother and sister stemmed from Murtaza's attempt to emerge as political heir to his father and PPP founder, Zulfukar Ali Bhutto, who was overthrown hy late General Mohammad Zia Ul Haq in 1977 and hanged two years later.

#### **U.K.** ex-minister rejects secret love-child charge LONDON (R) - An aris-

tocratic ex-minister whose affairs with a judge's wife and his two daughters have titillated Britain turned to his' lawyers over new allegations that he has a love-child hy yet another woman.

Alan Clark, a self-confessed philanderer who was a defence minister in former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government, said he was astounded by the charges.

Judge's wife Valerie Harkess

told Sunday's News Of The World newspaper that Clark had a son. Billy, by a woman of 24 and had told her of a fantasy concerning his mother-in-law. Mr. Clark, 66, told the Press

Association news agency from his 12th century castle home in southern England the allegations were not true and he was leaving the matter to his It was a sour twist to a lurid

story that has gripped the pru-rient public with its three-way sexual shenanigans, allegations of blackmail, a hint of political scandal and plenty of punditry about the morals of Britain's upper classes.

Mr. Clark, with a personal fortune estimated at £40 million (\$60 million), roguishly alluded in his best-selling memoirs to an affair with three

women he called his "coven" Their identity became public a week ago when South African Valerie Harkess. her husband James, and one of her two adopted daughters. Josephine. flew into London

from Cape Town to put their side of the story.
In a series of interviews

choreographed hy a wellknown society publicist. Valer-ie Harkess disclosed how she wept for days after Mr. Clark told her he had also bedded her daughter Alison - but she still continued the affair. James Harkess, a former de-

puty judge in Britain before he emigrated in 1977, said Mr. Clark deserved to be horse-whipped. Mr. Clark, tall with craggy good looks. cheerfully agreed with him.

Mr. Clark's long-suffering wife, Jane, handed headline writers another gift by accusing the Harkesses of demanding £100,000 (\$150,000) to stop them from going to the papers and snobbishly suggesting such money-grubhing was typical of people from "belowstairs".

In the Mail On Sunday, Jane Clark said she was actually glad the affair --- which she had known about - had become

"Because at last it's finished. Quite frankly they can't ring up and drone on at him any more," she said.

In a companion article. Alan Clark said he was filled with remorse. But he added: "The trouble about my sort of behaviour is that it's easy to feel remorse and to have a conscience and to regret it, but that's really no excuse. The simple answer is: 'You should have thought about that in the first place. But one doesn't.

### Chinese airliner hijacked to Taiwan

TAIPEI (R) — A Chinese man surrendered to Taiwan authorities Monday after forcing a Chinese airliner to fly to Taiwan, the 12th hijacking from the mainland since April last year, an airport spokesman

The Boeing 737 from China Southern Airlines, carrying 131 passengers and eight crew members, was hijacked while on a domestic flight from Fuzhon to Gnangzhon in southern China, the spokesman said.

It was the second hijacking of a Chinese airliner to Taiwan this year.

The airliner was intercepted by Taiwan Air Force fighters and landed safely at Taipei's International Airport. It was not immediately

known if anyone aboard was hurt. The identity of the hijacker was not made public. Taiwan, following its normal policy, will send back the plane, crew and passengers but will detain the hijacker for trial, said a spokesman for the cabinet's Mainland Affairs Council, which sets policy to-

wards China. China and Taiwan, rivals since the Chinese Civil War. which ended in 1949, have held five unsuccessful rounds of talks since last year in an effort to agree on a pact under which Taiwan would send hijackers back.

Taiwan is currently holding 15 Chinese people who hijack-ed airliners to Taiwan since April last year. Fourteen of the group have been given jail terms of up to 13 years. The 15th is still on trial.

### promises more action on Haiti

BELEM DO PARA, Brazil (AFP) — A senior U.S. diplomat wrapped up two days of high-level talks with regional partners in Brazil Sunday promising more action on resolving the crisis in Haiti

Delegates from 34 countries were in Belem Do Para for the Organisation of American States (OAS) assembly which opens Monday and met over the weekend to discuss the impasse with the military rulers

"This meeting of the OAS...
will reiterate the message of
the hemisphere and of the whole international community, and that is that the reign of the de factos has to come to an end very soon," said Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Tai-

The United Nations tightened the international embargo against Haiti two weeks ago in an effort to force the return of exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

#### Bosnian peace talks on track after Serb pullout GENEVA (Agencies) - Par-

ties to the Bosnian war, ending a four-day deadlock, agreed to return to the negotiating table for ceasefure talks Monday after Serb forces caved in to international pressure and pul-led out of a U.N.-dec'ared exclusion zone.

"All conditions are met. Negotia-

tions on an overall ceasefire will proceed this morning," Mohammad Sacirbey, ambassador to the Muslimdominated government, told reporters.

His government had refused to resume the U.N.-sponsored talks for a ceasefire until Serbs totally withdrew from the zone around the eastern Bosnian town of Gorazde.

The refusal stalled the U.N. talks for four consecutive days. U.N. spokesman Michael Williams, also speaking to reporters, read a joint statement issued by the Bosnian forces and the United Nations in Gorazde which said that at 7:00 a.m. (0500 GMT) no Serb armed military elements remained in the three-kilometres

Bosnian Vice President Ejup c welcomed the news fore heading for private talks with U.N. envoy for ex-Yugoslavia, Yasushi Akashi, and a meeting with U.N. chief Boutros Ghali, also in the Swiss city.

The round-table talks were to begin after the tete-a-tetes, Mr. Williams said.

In Sarajevo, Bosnian Presi-dent Alija Izethegovic gave his delegates the green light to discuss military issues at the talks Radio Sarajevo said, quoting a statement from his

Mr. Akashi, questioned car-lier by journalists about the duration of the truce, which the Muslim-dominated Bosnian government wants to lead to immediate talks on partition, said "that has to be negotiated. Some want it longer, we have to see what is the common agreement."

Mr. Akashi Sunday had given Bosnia's warring parties a final chance until Monday 9:00 a.m. (0700 GMT) to meet for the talks repeatedly stalled by disputes over the extent of a Serh withdrawal from the Gorazde exclusion zone. Earlier, Mr. Williams had said Mr. Akashi had given up after four days of delays and was preparing to return to Zag-

The weekend setback came a day after separate political talks here on the future of Bosnia under the sponsorship of a contact group comprising representatives of the European Union, Russia, the United Nations and the United States ended inconclusively.

Group negotiators met the Muslim-Croat and Serb delegations separately but made no progress on territorial issues, diplomatic sources said, adding that no resumption date

had been set. Bosnian leader Radovan Karadzic had meanwhile accused the Bosnians of "sabotaging the conference."

He said the Muslims invented "more and more demands and more and more pre-conditions and dupe the international community."

Bosnian Prime Minister
Haris Silajdzic was quoted
Monday as saying any peace
agreement splitting up Bosnian territory would be criminal.

"Before the war, we said that 58 per cent of the territory was inhabited by Bosnian Croats or just plain Bosnians. The problem is that any idea of division, or partition, is a criminal idea in itself," Mr. Sila-jdzic told the French daily Le

"Because in my country. people lived together, not only in the same city, but on the same street, in the same building, in the same house and often even in the same bed,"

be said. "What would be done with children of mixed parents, who are neither Serb nor Croat nor

Bosnian?," Mr. Silajdzic said.
"If the Serbs want to live separately and among themselves - within the sovereign state of Bosnia Herzegovina, of course - they can do it, but only in the areas where they were a majority before the conflict began," Mr. Silaidzic

About 40 Bosnian demonstrated ontside U.N. headquarters in Sarajevo Monday, protesting the failure of the United Nations to secure the release of four Muslims arrested by Serbs while travelling in a Ú.N. vehicle.

#### 1 survives, 159 die in Chinese airliner

Crash
BELJING (R) — A Chinese airliner on a domestic flight from the tourist centre of Xian crashed Monday, killing all but one of the 160 people on board in China's worst known civil aviation disaster, officials said.
The Russian-built Tupolev-

154 crashed eight minutes after take-off on China Northwest Airlines Flight 2303 to the southern city of Guangzhou.

China's Xinhua News Agency said of the 160 passengers and crew on board, nine were

foreigners while one was a Hong Kong resident.
Officials at Xian's Emergency Rescue Centre said one person had been found alive and sent to hospital in critical

condition. They said they assumed all others on board were dead, although complete information was not yet available.

Reports from the scene were confused, and officials in Beijing declined to give out much

information. Government workers in Changan county, where the plane went down, said the plane's nose, cahin and tail

were all shattered. They said debris was scattered and rescue operations were being hampered by rain which had fallen for two days. At least four of those dead, including a child, were fore-

igners, although their nationalty was not yet known. The previous highest death toll from a plane crash in China was in November 1992 when all 141 people on board a China Sonthern Airlines Boeing 737 were killed when it slammed into a hill coming in to land at the scenic tourist city of Guilin.

Xian, the central China site of Monday's crash about 1000 kilometres southwest of Beijing, is the location of the famous army of Terracotta Tomb Warriors dating from 210 B.C., a prime tourist attraction.

It was the first Chinese crash since last November, when 12 people were killed as a China Northern Airlines MD-82 crashlanded near the western city of Urumqi.

China this year vowed to overhaul its air transport industry, which has groaned under the weight of a doubledigit growth in demand. Unable even to train enough pilots, China's airlines have been plagued by crashes, hijackings and safety viola-

The International Airline Passengers Association (IAPA), in February cited China as one of the most dangerous places in which to fly after five crashes killed 76 people and 10 aircraft were hijacked

to Taiwan in 1993. In 1992, a series of accidents over a four-month period killed at least 276 passengers, including many foreigners. China now has 33 regional

airlines and more than 340 jets. The country Sunday announced it had expanded its fleet of surplus Soviet-era commercial jetliners, leasing five Tupolev Jumbos of the same model involved in Monday's crash.

The TU-154 jetliners will go into service on unspecified routes in China's overstretched air transport system.

## TORONTO (AFP) — A team of doctors successfully sepa-

Siamese twins

an astronaut.

separated

rated infant Siamese twin girls joined at the abdomen after 20 hours in the operating room, hospital officials said Sunday. The separation went smooth-

ly. It was an amazing team effort," said surgeon Robert Filler who directed some 50 doctors and nurses in the operation at Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. The sixmonth-old twins remained in critical condition following the operation which ended Saturday, but Dr. Filler said that was usual for patients who have undergone such a complicated procedure and said the prognosis was good. "We anti-cipate they should be normal women when they grow up," he said. The hospital declined to identify the parents, but said that the father was Canadian and that the family lives in Mexico. The twins were attached near the diaphragn and shared a liver and an intestine, but each had two arms and two legs. They have been birth and could be discharged at the end of June if all goes well, the hospital said.

#### **Bride cancels** wedding after groom's wife steps in

BANGKOK (R) — Almost 1,000 guests at a lavish wedding in southern Thailand were told to go home after the prospective hridegroom was snatched away at the last minute by an angry woman who said she was already married to him. The hride-to-be, Aree Nakliemthong, a teacher in the town of Tungsong, was forced to cancel the weekend wedding after the woman, and a young girl said to be the man's daughter, led her fiance away from the party shortly before the ceremonies were to begin. Ms. Aree later filed a complaint against the man, a local police man, accusing him of damaging her reputation and seeking compensation for the small fortune she had spent on the aborted wedding, police said.

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#### 'Gay day at Disney' sort of a fairy tale day

ORLANDO. Fla (R) -Christian activists protested, hut nothing really clouded "Gay Day at Disney" for the estimated 20,000 lesbians and gay men who attended, organisers said Sunday. "Everybody was very positive. I think this Disney thing might have a major role in changing the minds of people who are not really aware," said Charles Irwin, head of the Gay Alliance, a group of homosex-ual theme park employees. About 30 banner-carrying protesters lined the road leading to the theme park, including members of the American Family Association and the anti-abortion group operation rescue. "There's families going into Disney today. They need to know the family park is not a family park today," said Valerie Cadle of Palm Bay. Florida who is married to a 🥝 leader in the anti-abortion group Operation Rescue. Signs were posted outside the park entrance informing guests that a homosexual event was going and the Walt Disney Company does not discriminate.

### U.S. mulls military aid to Cambodia

WASHINGTON (R) — The Clinton administration is mulling whether to arm Cambo-dia's fledgling coalition government after battlefield victories by ex-premier Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge guerrillas.

But peering down a path similar to the one that led to the Vietnam War and to Cambodia's holocaust, the administration has been at pains to let Congress and Cambodia's neighbours take the lead. 'Any military assistance to

the Indochina area has a lot of historical resonance and potent political sensitivity, so we would want to work extremely closely with the Congress on Winston Lord, the State Department's top policymaker for the region, said last month. He said the United States

also was consulting regional and other states on the Cambodian request for aid and training of the demoralised 160,000strong army.
"The new integrated army need training and a lot of help to be effective as a fighting

Australian Broadcasting Corporation interview. The matter has taken on increased significance in recent months as Khmer Rouge military victories have raised the

force," Mr. Lord said in an

spectre of renewed civil war. The Khmer Rouge recaptured their headquarters at Pailin and took hack Anlong Veng, two important bases near the border with Thailand seized by the government in March. U.S. officials discount the

prospect of the Khmer Rouge returning to power hy force. but also see no chance of Phnom Penh wiping out the guerrilla threat in the near In the meantime, officials say they are concerned about

protecting the \$2 billion United Nations investment in elections that gave Cambodia a new lease on life last year after the biggest peacekeeping op-eration in history. One key focus of concern is the alleged connection be-tween the Khmer Rouge and

Thai army generals who

have traditionally controlled the lucrative cross-border gem. timber and reported weapons ırade. Morion Abramowitz. the U.S. ambassador to Thailand from 1978 to 1981, sparked the latest round of dehate over the Thai-Khmer Rouge connection

with a May 29 guest column in the Washington Post. In it he quoted an unidentified senior Thai official as having told him in 1992 that protecting the Khmer Rouge was "an important element of Thai security. "Some Thais want to keep a

hand in Cambodian affairs and create a sort of permanent huffer zone against a renascent Vietnam," wrote Mr. Abramowitz, now president of the Car-negie Endowment for International Peace. "Whether by graft or statecraft, Thailand bas become Pol Pot's best ally Asked about Mr. Abramo-

witz's account, the State De-partment said last Wednesday that "questions have certainly arisen about Thailand's adherence to a clearly enunciated policy of not supporting the Khmer Rouge.
"We have raised this matter with the Thai government and military officials, and we have strongly urged that every effort be made to ensure that all

the Khmer Rouge be cut off," a department spokeswoman Secretary of State Warren Christopher is due to deliver the message personally when he visits Bangkok next month for the annual meeting of the six-nation Association of South

East Asian Nations.

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### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

### S. Africa to take part in Commonwealth

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa will celebrate its return to the Commonwealth by sending a team of about 120 competitors and officials to the Commonwealth Games in Canada in August. The South African Commonwealth Games Association (SACGA), formed recently by members of national sports congress and the National Olympic Committee of South Africa, said a full team would participate in the games to be held from August 18 to 28 in Victoria, Canada. South Africa rejoined the Commonwealth June I after more than three decades of exile. Media reports had speculated last month there were insufficient funds for more than a dozen or so athletes in travel to Canada. But SACGA General Secretary Mithobi Tyamzashe said they had funds for at least

#### AC Milan offers \$10,000 to tidal wave

JAKARTA (AFP) — Visiting Italian soccer club AC Milan said ir would donate \$10,000 to the victims of tidal waves which claimed more than 200 lives in East Java, the official Antara news agency said Monday. AC Midan's manager Silvano Ramaccioni was quored by Antara as saying that the club's cash donation was to be handed over directly to the families of the victims, who were mostly from the southern part of Banyuwangi regency. The soccer club was scheduled to play a exhibition match later Monday in the East Java provincial capital of Surabaya against Surabaya Selection. The club had an easy rime in an international friendly exhibition Saturday, thrashing Indonesia's top amateur team Persib of Bandung, 8-11. The organisers will pay a total of \$390,000 to AC Milan for the two matches bere and in Surabaya, press

#### 'Swedish players provoke clash'

SCHWERIN, Germany (AFP) - A fight between a Swedish junior soccer team and German youths at Sassnitz in oortbern Gerntany was provoked by the young Swedes, contrary to earlier reports, police said Monday. Following investigation, a regional police spokesman said the Swedes aged 17 to 19, from the Trelleborg region, roughed up a local youth as they made their way drunkenly back to the ferry after winning a friendly match. The local youth then sought "reinforcements" and there was a clash, although no-one was badly hurt, the spokesman said. He denied that baseball bats were used in last Thursday's incident, contrary to the earlier report. The incident was initially viewed as an act of xenophobic violence by German skinheads.

#### Jackson forced to miss European Cup

LONDON (R) — World champioo burdler Colio Jackson will miss Britain's bid to regain the European Cup later this month after straining a hamstriog. Jackson, who defends the European and Commonwealth 110 metres titles this summer, said Monday: "It's not a serious injury but the season is such a demanding ooe that there is no point taking any chances." The 27-year-old Jackson will now not have his first major race of the season until the Gateshead International July 1. His place, in the European Cup io Birmingham June 25 and 26 will be filled by Tony Jarrett, the silver medallist at last year's World Championships in Stuttgart.

#### Robson's FC Porto draw Sporting 0-0

LISBON, Portugal (AP) — Players and fans endured 27-degree Celsius heat aod Players and fans endured 27-digree Celsius heat aod Players and fans endured 27-degree Celsius heat aod Players and Players an goalless draw, means the two will face off again June 10 in a replay, giving Porto coach Bobby Robsoo another chance to beat the club that fired him in December. "Of course there's some nostalgia about Sporting," Robson said. "But my heart is with the blues." Robson described the teams "almost equal," and that's how Sunday's game eoded. Both teams' steady if ungraceful play through a rough secood balf and a tense 30 minutes of extra time. Sporting dominated early, with Polish striker Andrezi Juskowiak and midfielder Pauco Sousa making deep but unsuccessful inroads against the Porto net as Yugoslavian forward Ljumbimko Drulovic geoerated Porto's

#### **GOREN BRIDGE**

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1 - Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: 4765 K87 QJ10 46542 North opens the bidding with a de-mand bid of two spades. When do you respond?

A.—You are close in a positive re-sponse of three spades. Had your hand contained a ruffing value that would certainly have been our choice. With your flat incling, however, slow the auction down by responding negatively with two no trump.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you \*AKJ9 7J9865 : KQ8 \*3 The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
Pass Pass 1
What action do you take?
A.—Normally, when an opponent

opens in your longest suit, it's right to pass. Here, however, partner might not went to act because of weak spades, so we would make an exception to the rule that an over-call on a four-card suit is taboo. Bid

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you

4Q643 TAJ7 :654 4J96 Partner opens the bidding with two A.—After a two-no rump opening by partner, you can still check for a 4-4 major fit by using the Stayman Convention. While it's not wrong to do so on this hand, most players reserve that action for hands that contain o ruffing value. Bid three no frump. After all, nine tricks are cas-

Q.4-Both vulnerable. as South

**±KQ** ₹108754 **€9863 ±A9** The bidding has proceed Narth East South West

What do you respond?

A.—With not a single high card in either of your long suits, this hand is not good enough to force to game. Bid two chibs, a major-suit inquiry. Should partner rebid two hearts, you have enough to raise to game. If npener bids spades or denies a ma-jor, we would vecture no more than two no trump. A transfer auction followed by two no trump would convey the same message.

Q.5-As South, vulnerable, you ♦A9852 T6 (AKQ53 ♣A4 What is your opening bid?

A.—When you hold two five-card suits, their quality does not come into consideration. Always open the higher, otherwise you will bave a problem convincing partner of the length of the higher-ranking suit. Bid one spade—the hand ian't near-ly strong enough for a demand bid.

Q.6-Both vuinerable, as South you hold: 4Q985 7105 0J106 49842 The bidding has proceeded: West North East South 1 NT Dbl Pass ?

What action do you take? A.—Don't ever pull partner's dou-ble of an opening no trump with a weak, balanced hand. If the opponents draw trumps, you will, in effect, be playing two no trump, probably doubled. If you can collect eight tricks with this hand, there's no way the opponents can make seven. Pass and bope your scattered high cards contribute significantly to the defensive effort.

ier ro take than 10!

### MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin

Pierce warns she will

come back for more

(AFP) - Indy-car season leader Al Unser Jr. won his third straight race, holding off teammate Emerson Fittipaldi to capture the rain-shortened Milwaukee 200 here Sunday.

The race was stopped after 192 of 200 scheduled laps around the one-mile (1.6 km) oval. Unser took the lead after an exchange of pit stops 37 laps into the race and kept ahead of the Brazilian racer to the finish.

"I really didn't think we were going to get a yellow flag, so I jumped out really quick and had to hold on," Unser Unser won last week's Indi-

anapolis 500 and April's Long Beach Indy-car Grand Prix. No driver has put together such a string since 1991, when Michael Andretti captured

three straight races.
"We're just looking for the

PARIS (R) - There is plenty

more to come from losing

French Open finalist Mary

Pierce of France, who emerged

as a major talent with a re-

markable run through the

"I'll come hack next year and hopefully, I will win," said the 19 year-old Pierce after

falling to Spaniard Arantxa

Sanchez Vicario in straight sets

in Sunday's final.
Pierce, who started the

tournament as an outsider, en-

tered the final as a likely win-

ner after dropping only to

games in six matches - a

"I really had a chance of

winning a Grand Slam tirle and

I'm a bit disappointed to have let it go," said Pierce, who

climbed from 12th to seventh

place in the women's rankings

thanks to her performance in

Paris. "But people keep telling

me that it was my first final and

that there will be many others

French Open record.

number one on the car," said Unser, a reference to the designation given the auto of the

Unser wins Milwaukee car race

series champion. Unser took another giant step toward taking the title now owned by England's Nigel Mansell, who was fifth here Sunday. Unser's victory gives him 79 points, 25 ahead of second-place Fittipaldi and 30 ahead of third-place Andretti. Roger Penske's race team

swept the first three places, with Canadian Paul Tracy third. He joined Unser and Finipaldi for a three-abreast victory lap that showed Penske's dominance, even without the Mercedes engine used to win at Indy. The million-dollar motor was legal only for that race, but Ilmor power was just as effective here.

"It seemed like every other lap there was a red car passing me," Andretti said. "My hat is

because I'm only 19."

American-hased Pierce, who

had long been regarded as a

porential threat to the rop play-

ers, proved she was no longer

afraid of anyone by crushing

world number one Steffi Graf

in straight sets in the semifin-

The rise of Pierce came as

good news for women's tennis,

desperately awaiting some-body capable of challenging Graf in the continued absence

"Perhaps I lost the final be-

cause I was thinking I had to

win after beating Steffi," she

said. "But a final is different

from the other matches. I'll

Pierce was under heavy

pressure on centre court with a

partisan, 17,000 crowd waiting

for her to become the first

Frenchwoman ro win at Ro-

land Garros since Francoise

know better next time,"

of Monica Seles.

off to them. The Penskes had a great race."

Tracy grabbed the lead from pole-sitter Raul Boesel at the start and kept it until Fittipaldi caught him. Unser took charge after the first pit stops, as the Penske drivers allowed no other racer to lead a single lap.
"It's fantastic," Fittipaldi said. "One-two-three. What else do you need? I have never been with a group like this."
The only est not sugning at

The only car not running at the finish belooged to Sweden's Stefan Johansson. whose engine burned out with 35 laps remaining. Cars re-sumed full-speed racing with 22 laps to go, with Unser denying Fittipaldi a chance to build speed on the restart.

Two laps later, rains came and the final 12 laps were completed at low speed, droppiog Unser's final speed to 118.804 mph.

#### French Open insurers to pay \$400,000 to fans

PARIS (AFP) — The insurers of the French Open Tennis championships are to pay out some 2.S million francs (\$400,000) to disappointed fans at Saturday's women's final, washed out by rain, a spokesman said Monday.

UAP, the official insurer of the French Tennis Federation (FFT), are to make payouts or provide tickets for next year's women's final after spectators at Roland Garros saw only 18 minutes of play because of

The company, in excess of its contractual duty to compensate spectators who are mem-bers of the FFT or who bought their tickets through it, has pledged to pay out to all those disappointed on the centre court Saturday.

### Ewing leads NBA finals Pacers and into Knicks past

NEW YORK (R) — Patrick Ewing told coach Pat Riley he wanted the game in his hands, and he got it as he led the New York Koicks to a 94-90 win over the Indiana Pacers Sunday and a berth in the NBA

finals. The Knicks will visit the Houston Rockers Wednesday in their first appearance in the finals since 1973, when they beat the Los Angeles Lakers in

five games. Ewing secred 24 points, grabbed 22 rebound with 11 of them on the offensive boards, delivered seven assists, blocked five sbots and made the go-ahead basket in the closing balf-minute of what Riley called a "harrowing, harrowing" game seven of the Eastern Conference finals.

With 26 seconds left, Ewing slam dunked a missed layup by John Starks to put New York up 91-90.
"I just followed up, the ball

came out and I dunked it back," Ewing said.
"Big time," said Starks.
"The big fella stepped up when we needed it."

Patrick made a marvellous play," said Indiana coach Larry Brown.

Some 20 seconds later, Charles Oakley, on a switch, pressured sharpshooter Reggie Miller into throwing up an airball on Indiana's last shot. Riley called Miller's miss

"the biggest play of the game." But after that play came one, which Pacer fans may consider just as big, when Miller was called for a flagrant foul on Starks. That gave the Knieks not only two foul shots -Starks made one — but also the ball, setting up another trip to the foul line for Starks. He

made both for the final score. "They can't make that call in the conference finals," said an angry Miller. "I didn't think it was a flagrant in the first place.



**Patrick Ewing** 

He knew I was going to foul

Brown, clearly upset with the call, pointed out that the Pacers had a foul to give, and had been reminded of this by the referees, but said he would not criticise a referee. Said Starks, who finished

with 17 points: "I thought it was an aggressive foul. The referee made the call and you have to live with it."

He added: "He hit me dead

in the chest. Miller led all scorers with 25 points, but was held to five in the pivotal fourth quarter, when Ewing talbed seven. Ewing said he had asked

Riley to call plays for him.
"Fist-up, fist-down," said Ewing, referring to Riley's hand signals from the bench. "I told the coach, run my play, fist-up, fist-down, put the

ball in my hand. I feh if we lose I'd rather have it in my hand. If we lose they'll blame me anyway," he said with a laugh.
"I told my wife last night, if it's up to me, we will be going

Derek Harper scored
Oakley had 14 points and give rebounds and Anthony Marion contributed 12 points and 10 rebounds for the Knieks, who outrebounded Indiana 51-29

"That was the game," 'ai Brown. "They were phe nomenal on the offensi board. They made the oige... score of the night on the

sive board."

Byron Scort score points, Derrick McK and Rik Smits added Pacers, who advanced - whe the first round of res 7 1 plyaoffs for the first their history.

'I'm disappointed, but it doesn't mean!'m not prou.

After trailing by four at haif, time, 51-47. New York feel behind by as many as 12 at 65-53 with 4:39 to go in the third quarter but cas it hack to four at 71-67, going into the final quarter.

After Derrick McKey hit : 3-pointer as the 24-second th. clock expired, extending the lead to 74-69. New York realed off seven straight points for a 76-74 advantage.

After Indians tied it at 76-76, New York moved out to 9-81-76 lead and was up by five again at 85-80 but the Pucers came back again to take the with 35 seconds to go, leading to Ewing's go-ahead putback The Pacers shot a sizzling 68 per cent from the field in the

first half. The Knicks held a 24-23 Jead after the first quarter.

The two teams broke an NBA playour record for fewest points in a seven-game series with 612. The old mark was 620 by New York and Chicago n ico The home team has now

won the last 19 game sevens in the NBA playoffs. to Houston tomorrow," Ewing

Even though he still has a los

to learn, he is a nearly crim-

Now, he is learning to core

He just signed a deal to

endorse an American brand of

footwear during the cup. A

popular rap singer invited him

to make a video. He appears in

TV spots urging youngsters to

register to vote - the voting

After the World Cup, the

future appears limitless. PSV

Eindhoven of the Dutch first

division reportedly has offered

He takes his sudden success

"It's natural to talk of coinci-

with a cool confidence that

dences with Pele, but let's see

if I have the soccer to be a real

\$4 million for his transfer.

age in Brazil is 16.

belies his years.

plete player.

ith stardom:

### Brazil struggles against Canada

#### WORLD CUP ROUNDUP

The Associated Press

BRAZIL, which likes to play soccer with grace and flair and artistry, bungled things but

In a tuneup leading to the World Cup, the three-time champions did not better than a I-1 draw with Canada Sun-

day at Edmonton, Alberta. Canada, a soccer weakling which failed to qualify for the upcoming tournament, produced one of its finest results, thanks to a goal by Eddy Ber-

dusco in the 70th minute. Berdusco, a substitute who entered in the 62nd minute, sent the crowd of 51,930 into a frenzy when he hammered a shot high into the left corner

over goalie Claudio Taffurel. "It's a huge goal for me," Berdusco said. "When they write it down in the books Canada played Brazil, my name will be there for scoring

the goal. "Éveryhody thought we were going ro get hlown out. They said the nnly rime we'd touch the ball is when we fished it out of the back of the

Romario opened the scoring on a superh effort in the 45th minute. After the game, the Brazilian players sromped off the field, refusing to shake hands with the Canadians." "We didn't score when we

had in," coach Carlos Parreira Brazil begins World Cup play June 20 against Russia at Stanford, Calif.

"Everybody's going to be huzzing around the world," Canadian gnalkeeper Craig Forrest said. "They're going to be shocked because nobody

gave us a chance." In other games, Colombia defeated Greece 2-11, the Czech Republic bent Ireland 3-1, Sweden blanked Norway 2-fl and Ecuador diwned South Korea 2-1.

At East Rutherford, N.J., Colombia used second-half

goals by Herman Gaviria and Freddy Rincon to overpower Greece in a World Cup tuneup for the reams.

The game was played before a Giants Stadium crowd of 73.511, and marked the first test of the stadium's new grass field, which appeared to hold up well.

Colombia opens play June 18 against Romania at Pasadena, Calif. Greece opens June 21 against Argentina at Foxboro, Mass.
"Colombia is one of the

best, if not the best team we've seen," Greece coach Alkis Panagoulias said. "I put them in the category of Brazil. Germany, Italy and Argentina." The Greek team says hotel

room keys were stolen from its locker room. Three horel rooms allegedly were robbed of cash and jewelry, At Dublin, Ireland, World-

Cup-bound Ireland was upset by a non-qualifier after having scored surprising upset over the Netherlands and Germany on the road.

Pavel Kuka had two goals and Jan Suchoparek one for the Czechs. Andy Townsend scored in the first half for Ireland.

At Stockholm, Sweden. Tomas Brolin struck twice six minutes early in the second half as Sweden won the rhreenation Nordic Cup. Norway conceded only one goal in four previous exhibitions.

"In the second half we really bottled up the Norwegian defence." Swedish coach Tommy Svensson said. "This was a winderful victory for us going into the World Cup.

Norway plays Mexico in Washington June 19. Sweden starts that day against Cameroom in Pasudena. At Wakefield, Mass. Ivo

Ron's second goal of the game. a header in the 77th minute. carried Ecuador. Hong Myung Bo tied it 1-1 in the 60th minute for World Cup-hound South Korea.

#### of Brazilian team Ronaldo is 'Cinderella'

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) - It's not easy breaking into the lineup of a team considered one of the best in the world. It's even harder. It's even harder when you're only

tion Ronaldo hopes to do at this summer's World Cup. And some of the sport's most respected names say he deserves a chance.

"He has everything to become an international star. We're talking about a phenomenon," said Tostao, who helped lead Brazil to its last World Cup title in 1970.

Ronaldo was among the 22 Brazilian players who flew to San Francisco for the first round of the cup, which opens June 17. That in itself was a major honour, but Ronaldo dreams of bigger things.

Something tells me I'll get a spot on the team," he said as he waited to board rhe plane in Rio. "Everything is happening so fast, it seems like my turn has come." Fast? Try warp speed.

In barely a year, Ronaldo has gone from unknown rookie on a second-division Rio team to the darling of the national squad. Hounded by autograph seekers, fought over for endorsements, peppered with contract offers. Ir still seems a little hard to

"A little while ago I was

playing on Sao Cristovao and saw all these guys on TV," he said of his teammates on the Brazilian squad. "Now I'm with them. Ronaldo Luiz Nazario de

Lima grew up playing soccer in class district of Bento Ribeiro, on Rio's west side. He tried out for Flamengo,

the city's most popular team. But the club, in arguably its worst decision ever, sent him away rather than pay the bus fare his family couldn't afford.

So Ronaldo went to Sao Cristovao, a small seconddivision club. There he was spotted by Jairzinho, another veteran of the 1970 World Cup team, who immediately recognised bis potential and signed the youngster to a contract.

Jairzinho peddled Ronaldo to Cruzeiro, a traditional club in Belo Horizonte. After a year in the junior division, he moved up to the pro team and exploded on to the national scene.

In his first 54 games, he scored 54 goals, winning the league's scoring crown and leading Cruzeiro to the Minas Gerais State championship. But it wasn't only the number of goals, it was how he scored them - right foot, left foot, headers, with speed, intelli-gence, power, finesse.

"He's a complete attacker," said Tostao. "He bas a good physique, is skilled, dribbles.

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passes and shoots equally well St. Germain. "He's a rare talent," added with his right or left foot. He's Stuttgart miofielder Dunga,

a fantastic player." The comparisons with Pele were inevitable — and Ronal-do came out ahead. His scoring average was higher than Pele's. Pele didn't have the total ambidexterity that sets Ronal-

do apart. "Ronaldo is the best attacker in Brazilian soccer," agreed Zico, a veteran of three World Cups. "He works the ball equally with his left and right foot, is intelligent, quick and

cold like the great scorers." Still, because of his age and lack of experience, Ronaldo was considered a longshot to make the World Cup squad. His chance came in Brazil's final home exhibition game

against Iceland May 4. With Bebeto and Romario in Spain, Ronaldo started the game - and won it almost singlehandedly. He scored a goal, set up two others and put on a dazzling show en route to a 3-0 Brazilian victory.

Afterwards, coach Carlos Alberto Parreira said the game had been worthwhile juset to see Ronaldo play. He had stamped his passport to the

cup.
"This kid's going far." Par-

Few expect Ronaldo to hump Romario or Bebeto from the lineup - the duo is widely considered the best front line anywhere. But his skills have impressed his teammates.

"Itt's incredible what he does with the ball." said Ricardo Gomes, who plays for Paris

Pele," he said recently.

Dr. Luma Shawa-Member of the Royal College of Obstetricains and Gynaecologists

announces the opening of her obstetrics, gynaecology and fetal medicine clinic at:

of Britain

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O A Y	Tom Cruise & Holly Hunter in  The Firm  Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 9:00	1) Life After Marriage Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	CONCORD '1' FX - 2 Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 CONCORD '2' THE GETAWAY Shows: 12:30, 3:45, 6, 8:t5, 10:15	Soon the new play !!!	Today & Everydav Abu Awwad in social comedy  "PUNCTURED BAG"	is back to you after performing in Canada as of Wednesday, June 15, 1994 in their play:  ***********************************

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### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### Sephardic Jews meet with Palestinians

JERICHO (AFP) — An Israeli delegation of Sephardic Jews and leftist intellectuals met officially for the first time Monday with Palestinian police leaders in this autonomous enclave. The 18-member delegation held talks with Jericho security chief Jibril Rajub and police head Hajj Ismail and congratulated lated them on autonomy. They pledged to work with the new Palestinian authorities toward peace and the establishment of a Palestinian state. Mr. Rajub, who has been banned by Israel from travel outside Jericho, welcomed the delegation in Hebrew and expressed optimism for future cooperation. Mr. Rajub refused to comment on his travel ban, but was overheard telling Palestinians he would visit them as soon as he would be allowed out. "I think this (the autonomy) is a first said Avi Sardugo, an Israeli lawyer of North African origin. "The second step will be the creation of a Palestiman state, and the third will be the economic and cultural integration of Israel in the Middle East. There will be cooperation between Oriental (Sephardic) Jews and Palesti-

#### Israel returns seven Palestinian intelligence officers

AMMAN (AP) — Israel prevented seven Palesnnian intelligence officers from entering the West Bank town of Jericho saying their names were not on a list of Palestinian policemen allowed to enter the autonomous territory, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) sources said Monday. The sources, who declined to be identified, said the seven were turned away later Sunday from the King Hussein Bridge from among a group of 36 intelligence officers heading for Jericho. "The Israeli officers at the bridge said the names of seven were not in a list they had of Palesinians allowed to cross into the West Bank and Jericho," said one source. The rest were allowed in, the sources told the associated press. No further details were immediately available.

#### Italy plays down israeli criticism

ROME (R) — Italy on Monday played down criticism from Israel over the appointment of neo-fascists to Rome's new government and said a meeting of the two countries' foreign ministers would confirm their close relations. Diplomatic sources said foreign ministers Antonio Martino and Shimon Peres were scheduled to meet in Luxembourg next Monday during talks between Israel and the European Union. "We expect only a positive outcome from that meeting," an Italian diplomatic source told Reuters. The source said Italy did not believe the criticism, expressed on Sunday by Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin, would affect Rome's traditional close

#### Chad deal could help end crisis — Libya

CAIRO (AFP) - Libya's compliance with an international ruling to return a disputed desert border strip to Chad will help end the Lockerbie crisis. Libyan Foreign Minister Omar Al Muntasser said in an interview published Monday. The West favoured a peaceful resolution with Libya "particularly since its upright policies no longer threaten world peace or security," he told the London-based Sharq Al Awsatt news-Proof of those policies was Libya's "complete withdrawal from the Aouzou Strip, even though it was not in Libya's favour." Libya handed over the Aouzou Strip to Chadian control on May 30, after the International Court of Justice awarded the mineral-rich strip to Chad. The ruling has settled a 21-year-old dispute between the two countries. Libya and Chad on Sunday signed a friendship treaty in Tripoli, closing a 48-hour visit by Chadian President Idriss Deby and a large delegation.

#### Senior Algerian customs official murdered

ALGIERS (AFP) - A senior Algerian customs official, Abdullah Moussouni, was shot dead overnight at bis home in Dergana, east of Algiers, the security services announced Monday. Officials gave no details of the circumstances in which Moussouni, 40, the director of the national dataprocessing and statistics centre of the customs service, was gunned down. Moussouni was the second senior civil servant to be murdered in a week, following the killing last Tuesday of the vice-chancellor of the University of Science and Technology at Bab Ezzouar, near Algiers.

#### Russians hold military talks in Syria

DAMASCUS (AP) - Russian and Syrian army commanders held talks Monday on boosting military cooperation, a month after Moscow reportedly wrote off most of Syria's \$10 billion military debt and agreed to sell it more weapons. The Russians, headed by chief of staff General Mikhail Kolisnekov. arrived Sunday. They were greeted at Damascus international airport by Syria's veteran chief of staff Gen. Hekmat Al Shehabi, a close aide of President Hafez Al Assad. The official-Syrian Arab News Agency said the talks began immediately after at Mr. Shehabi's office. They continued Monday, officials said.

#### Lebanon denies israeli drugs charges

BAALBEK, Lebanon (AFP) — Lebanon on Monday denied Israeli reports that it had failed in its campaign to eradicate hashish and poppy growing in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley, as a U.N. delegation was set to begin drug talks here. "Israel is trying to undermine Lebanon and Syria's reputations," the head of the national anti-drug commission, Sultant Haidar, told the AFP. He dismissed as "provocation" a repor published on May 27 by the Israeli daily Maariv alleging that Israel was developing a "biological weapon" to destroy Lebanese poppy fields to end drug-trafficking across the border. "There isn't a single plant of hashish or poppy in the Baalbek-Hermel region (of the Bekaa)," Mr. Haidar said. A delegation of the U.N. Development Programme for the fight against drugs in Lebanon was 10 start a five-day visit in Lebanon on Monday to discuss efforts to eradicate the growing of hashish and poppy from the Bekaa Valley.

#### indian army carries out second Prithvi test

NEW DELHI (AFP) - The Indian army completed preliminary trial of the home-built surface missile Prithvi on Monday by carrying out a second successful test in three days, ignoring Pakistani concern about a missile race. The eight-metre long silver-white missile took off in clear weather from a mobile launcher at the Chandipur-on-Sea test range in the eastern coastal state of Orissa, Press Trust of India (PTI) reported from the site. The missile hit a pre-determined target in the Bay of Bengal after a perfect four-minute flight over 145 kilometres. PTI said. "Il met the mission requirements as expected." an unnamed official source was quoted as saying. The test wrapped up preliminary "user-trials" on the missile preceding its possible induction into the army." the news

#### Fuel convoy arrives breaking Kabul blockade

KABUL (AFP) - A convoy of 50 fuel tankers arrived here Monday from the north breaking a month-long blockade of the city by forces opposed to President Burhanuddin Rabbani, officials said. Announcing the break in the 156-day blockade. officials said the convoy had come from the Central Asian republic of Kirghizstan, which borders Afghanistan. An alternate route was opened by former Defence Minister Ahmad Shah Masoud from Sher Khan River port to Kabul, by passing the main highway linking Kabul with northern Hairatan port. Defence Ministry sources said the 450kilometre main highway was still blockade by troops belonging to General Abdul Rashid Dostum and Prime Minister Gulbudin Hekmatyar, but Mr. Masood, Mr. Rabbani's main battlefield commander, had flushed out alliance troops from nearby Kunduz province.

### D-Day ceremonies climax at Omaha

OMAHA BEACH, France (Agencies) - President Francois Mitterrand thanked the Albes once again for liberating France as D-Day 50tb anniversary ceremonies climaxed Monday at the beach where the greatest combined assault in history almost failed.

The Omaha Beach ceremony contained both pageantry and pathos, with marching bands from nine countries, an aviation and naval show, the presence of 19 heads of state and government and poignant testimony from veterans.

Mr. Mitterrand spoke after June 6, 1944 addresses by Supreme Allied Commander Dwight Eisenhower and the leader of the Free French, Charles de Gaulle were broadcast across the sand.

"You have given us freedom and that we owe to you," Mr. Mitterrand said, speaking to Americans, British, Canadians, Dutch, Norwegians, Poles and all other Allies.

But be warned that the struggle continues as "other totalitarian regimes have continged and continue to build on blood and tears the annibilation of what in childhood one takes to be immortal - love, duty and friendship, the rights and respect of others."

He spoke from a monument at the edge of Omaha Beach, where 3,000 U.S. troops died after the June 6 landings when faced with stiff German resistance that almost forced them

Mr. Mitterrand was flanked by the 18 other heads of state and government who took part in the commemoration Sunday and Monday, including U.S.

By a Jordan Times

Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan's adher-

ence to the economic restruc-

turing programme agreed with

the International Monetary

Fund (IMF) has proved to be

an impressive success, with the

Kingdom posting good results

in 1993, but the poverty level

in the country rose sharply

A survey conducted by the

Amman-based Economic and

Social Commission for West-

ern Asia (ESCWA) in its mem-

ber countries noted that Jor-

dan registered an economic

growth of 6 per cent in 1993

and managed to reduce the

While the economic growth

"represents a deceleration

from the exceptionally high

rate (II per cent) achieved in

1992, it was still impressive,

taking into consideration the

prevailing economic conditions

in the region," said a summary

of the results of the survey

made available to the Jordan

"Success in implementing

economic and structural

adjustment policies enabled

the country to reduce its exter-

nal and internal imbalances

and create a favourable invest-

ment climate," said the sum-

strides in addressing its econo-

mic problems, the poverty line

in the Kingdom went np, the report said. "The number of

families living below the pover-

ty line rose by 6.6 per cent in

1992 to 21.3 per cent of the total number of households in

the country, up from 18.7 per cent in 1989," it said. The

report did not provide the para-

meters that set the poverty

not much different from the

general state of affairs in some

The situation in Jordan was

While Jordan made major

Times.

pressure of external debts.

iace 1989, a Unite

agency reports.

President Bill Clinton, Queen Elizabeth II and Lech Walesa of Poland.

Mr. Clinton joined aging war veterans and the Allied leaders in ceremonies at sites along 80 kilometres of the northern French shore.

Mr. Clinton, who never served in the military himself, joined in six events: A sunrise service aboard an aircraft carrier off the Normandy coast, ceremonies at Utah and Omaba beaches, a cliff-top observance at Pointe du Hoc, a luncheon in Caen, and a somber speech at the Colleville-sur-Mer U.S. cemetery.

Atop a cliff taken in the D-Day invasion, be told veterans that freedom's fight is not finished. "You did your job, now we must do ours," he said.

Mr. Clinton flew on a blustery morning from the nuclearpowered aircraft carrier USS Washington, anchored in the mist-covered English Channel. to Pointe du Hoc. "Mr. Clinton flew on a blus-

tery morning from the nuclearpowered aircraft carrier USS Washington, anchored in the mist-covered English Channel, to Pointe du Hoc.

"The longest day is not yet over," Mr. Clinton told veterans at the spot where U.S. Rangers took the cliffs.
"The longest day is not yet over," he said.

He said the world still must reduce the number of deadly wearons, expand democracy, build strong families, improve education and end conflict.

The Allied landing, the greatest amphibious attack ever launched, turned the tide of war against Nazi Germany

Jordan's economic course going

well, but poverty is rising — U.N.

of the countries in the ESCWA

region, where "the gap be-

tween the rich and poor" in-

creased and "the benefits of

development were not equally

and the rural population con-

tinue to be deprived and mar-

ginalised in most countries of

the ESCWA region," the re-

port said. "The gap has been

aggravated by structural imba-

lances and income disparities

among countries of the region,

between rural and urban

population and across popula-

"Inequitable distribution of

resources at the regional level,

inadequate energy supplies,

water shortages, lack of food

security and external debts in

some countries of the region

further aggravated the prob-

lem of poverty. In the field of

social welfare, the poor have

been suffering from inequit-

and services, unemployment

and increasing poverty."

able distribution of benefits

Jordan was among the

ESCWA countries where eco-

nomic reform remained a ma-

ior concern and gained

The Kingdom turned to the

momentum in 1993, it said.

IMF in 1988 for help when the

burden of foreign debts, which

then stood at nearly \$8.4 bil-

lion, scrambled its economy

on. The IMF stepped in with

an economic restructuring and

recovery programme which the

As a result, Jordan's foreign

debts now stand at around \$6.6

billion, part of it already res-

cheduled, and a realignment of

the overall economic system,

including subsidies.

government-owned entities

and services, the banking sys-

tem and the taxation structure.

has made considerable head-

way.
The summary of the

ESCWA survey noted that the

Kingdom followed.

"The majority of the poor

shared.



U.S. World War II veterans watch Monday's celebrations on Utah Beach commemorating the

50th anniversary of the Allied landing at Normandy (AFP photo)

but at terrible cost. On D-Day alone, 10,000 Allied soldiers were killed or wounded, but the allies had a foothold in Enrope and Hitler was doomed

"This event is one of the great events of history, and which has changed the course of history," Mr. Mitterrand

He was cheered by 5,000 veterans and several thousand other spectators, comfortably installed in tribunes shielded from the cold by plastic roofs.

They were treated to a show that included U.S., French and Dutch warships making a naval

Kingdom succeeded in achiev-

ing a continued economic

growth in 1993, bolding infla-

tion in abeyance at below 5 per

cent, reducing unemployment

by about 4 per cent to 11 per

cent, improving the overall budgetary situation, meeting

current expenditures and a

large part of capital expendi-

tures from domestic revenues,

and rescheduling part of the

nearly \$4 billion debt owed to

the Paris Club of creditor gov-

ernments and \$895 million

owed to the London Club of

It said expatriate remitt-

ances had improved as a result

of the return of some Jorda-

nian workers to the Gulf states

or alternate employment

opportunities. However, de-

spite the decline in the unem-

ployment rate in the Kingdom.

ioblessness remained a major

the significant success achieved

in reducing external and inter-

nal imbalances" contributed to

reducing unemployment in the

country, but the situation con-

tinues to pose a challenge, it

said. The positive and negative

points noted in the ESCWA

clined by 29.3 per cent in Jor-

- Jordan, along with Egypt

and Lebanon, were three

ESCWA countries where de-

mand for oil went up during

women rose to around 70 per

nance Corporation, an arm of

the World Bank, ranked the

Amman Financial Market, the

Jordanian bourse, as "an

emerging one among 20 other

markets in the developing

world" because of the im-

proved level of activities and

dealing standards.

cent in the Kingdom.

Literacy rate among

- The International Fi-

dan during the year 1993;

Wheat production de-

"High economic growth and

commercial banks.

problem, it said.

survey included:

the year.

parade from west to east just off Omaha Beach and a mock landing by five amphibious craft labelled to represent the five beaches stormed by the Allies on D-Day — code-named Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword.

Vintage planes from the World War II era such as the wide-winged C-47s used to drop paratroopers and B-17 flying fortress bombers made fly-overs as did modern-day U.S. F-18 fighter-bombers, and French Mirage fighterbombers.

D-Day. American Walter Ehlers told the world leaders bow be and bis brother had

but his brother bad died. Frenchman Andre Morel one of the first French resi dents to welcome the U.S. troops to Normandy, used heavily accented English to say Thank you, thank you, thank you" for the liberation

come ashore at Omaha Beach,

The stands were full of cheering veterans, those in the U.S. section waving flags and joined by U.S. senators Republican Robert Dole and

#### The planes temporarily Democrat John Glenn. drowned out two veterans of Turkey to pay part of

Iraqi oil proceeds to U.N.

NICOSIA (AP) — Turkey has agreed to pay the United Nations 30 per cent of the value of Iraqi oil it wants to flush from pipelines following a diplomatic scrap with the United States, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday.

But the authoritative oil industry newsletter, published in Nicosia, stressed: "It is too early to speak of a done deal ect between turke and the United States, or the United Nations.

"A good deal of negotiation remains to be accomplished. and the issue still has to be presented to the U.N. Security Council, which could require the passage of a new resolu-

Turkey, a key member of the U.S.-led coalition which drove the Iraqis out of Kuwait in February 1991, has been seeking to improve links with Baghdad in recent months.

It has proposed flushing out the twin 900-kilometre pipelines, which run from the Kirkuk oilfields in northern Iraq to Turkey's Ceyhan terminal on the Mediterranean.

Ankara. which is grappling with a major economic crisis. wants to use the oil trapped in the pipelines to alleviate its financial problems. It claims it has lost \$20 billion because of the U.N. embargo.

The scheme was opposed by the United States and other members of the U.N. Security Council, even though Ankara claimed Baghdad would not benefit financially from it.

But the dispute has other political ramifications as Baghdad has intensified its efforts to split the coalition and have the sanctions eased, or lifted.

Ankara has hinted it might stop allowing U.S., British and French warplanes to be based in Turkey to protect Kurdish rebels in northern Iraq from Iraqi forces after Washington cut its financial aid until Turkey improves its human rights record. This has strained U.S.-Turkisb relations.

The Americans have also been pressing Ankara to do more to find a settlement to reunify Cyprus, which has been divided since Turkey invaded in 1974 and seized the northern one-third of the is-

Under the deal arranged by Turkey and Iraq, the oil would oe used by Ankara to refine for domestic consumption, provide Baghdad with humanitarian supplies permitted under the embargo and repay Turkish debts. Bagbdad was to get no outright financial payments. MEES said the deal envis-

aged that Turkey would do that it wants with the oil in its end of the pipelines, while the value of the remainder would be split 60-40 in Turkey's favour, with no provision for paying anything to the U.N. compensation fund, which has the right to one-third of Iraqi oil revenue to defray its postwar operating expenses.

The pipelines were closed when the United Nations imposed trade sanctions on Iraq in August 1990 for invading Kuwait. They contain an estimated

II to 13 million barrels of Iraqi crude - eight to nine million in the Turkish sector, and legally owned by Turkey, and three to four million on the Iraqi side. Altogether, the oil is worth around \$300 million at current prices.

MEES quoted "authoritative sources as saying Turkey has agreed to pay 30 per cent of the value of the pipeline oil to the U.N. compensation fund set up after the 1991 Gulf war to pay reparations to victims of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Ankara would also pay "undefined additional sums" to cover the cost of U.N. operations in Iraq, the weekly newsletter reported.

#### Roof saves boy In fall from high-rise

TOKYO (R) — A Japanese schoolboy survived a 27-metre (88-foot) fall from the 10th floor of a building Monday after landing on the zinc roof of a bicycle shed, a spokesman for the Tokyo Fire Department said. Morio Kobayashi, 16. was taken to hospital with a broken right arm after the accident but his life was not in danger. He lost his balance while sitting on a railing at the edge of the top storey of the 10-floor condominium where he lived.

#### **Hundreds flock** to Pushkin's tomb

PUSHKINSKY GORI, Russie (AFP) — Hundreds of people flocked from all over Russia this weekend to pay homage to the country's national poet, Alexander Pushkin, ou the 195th anniversary of his birth. A three-day festival, now in its 28th year, attracted artists, writers and dignitaries as well: as ordinary lovers of the poetto his tomb in the monastery of this little town 600 kilometres (375 miles) northwest of Moscow. Most of them, either formally reciting or just in conversation, were able to quote long passages of Pushkin's verses with passion, convinced that he is not really dead. 'Pushkin still lives in 'each of us," said Moscow writer Pyotr Proskurin, author of numerous orthodox novels in the Soviet era praising the simple peasantry and the heroism of Russian soldiers. "Pushkin is like Jesus Christ, like a religion," he said. "While hostility to Russia tries to weaken it, Pushkin helps us to keep alive the idea of a Russia great and proud." Another writer, Mikhail Labanov, expressed the wish that the name of Pushkin serve as a rallying-cry for Russians who felt downcast by the collapse of the soviet Union. But other authors present at the festival were wary of such nationalist : sentiments. "The main question facing Russians today is Moscow poet Marina Kudimo-

#### 10-year-old graduates from university

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MOBILE, Alabama (AFP) -A 10-year-old boy received his diploma from an Alabama University Sunday, becoming the youngest American to. graduate from college. Michael . Kearney, who graduated from high school at six, said the next step was graduate school. "I've :: been sending applications in. Anybody who wants to have a 10-year-old graduate student who's soon to be 11, I'm here,". he said after receiving bis degree in anthropology from the University of South Alabama. Kearney, who graduated with bonours and a better-tban-Bplus grade average, was also the youngest American to graduate high school and enter a college, according to the Guin ness Book of Records. An I1-year-old boy graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz in 1988. Kearney's mother, who attended classes with the boy because he had trouble writing fast enough to take notes, said he wanted a car for his graduation present. "I told him, 'you can't drive it until you're 16.' He said, 'that's okay, when I can, it'll still be in mint condition'."

#### Hillary Clinton's wardrobe panned by French

ROME (AP) - Uncharacteristically, the White House went out of its way to talk up Hillary Rodham Clinton's wardrobe on her visit to Rome. It turns out that Italian fashion critics weren't impressed. "Gutsy but without style." Laura Biagiot-li, a top Italian designer, said in reviewing a succession of bright pink, turquoise and black outfits worn by Mrs-Clinton. "Fashion stayed at home. The American first lady was in Italy with President Clinton to honour U.S. soldiers who fought in key battles of World War II 50 years ago. La Repubblica's verdict on Mrs. Clinton's wardrobe: "She is tenacious, clever, relentless

- but she is not elegant." It said her clothes were "uncertain creations" and 'lacking in imagination." La Stampa objected that Mrs. Clinton, for her audience with Pope John Paul 11, tied her black mannila. or veil, under her chin to look.

#### PLO tries to curb Israeli involvement in economy outdated. Palestinians should By John West Industries Ltd and a joint inbe open for international tenare not convinced the terms will

Reuter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

— The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel are locked in a quiet diplomatic struggle over how far Israeli firms will be involved in rebuilding the Palestinian economy, officials from both sides said this week.

But although PLO statements against joint ventures reflect the strength of their hand in determining who gets a share of the multi-billion dollar development cake, the PLO will find it harder to stop joint private sector projects, economists say.

Politicians and businessmen from both sides announced visionary projects for the "new Middle East" when the two foes made peace last year, including an industrial conglomerate led by Israel's Koor

and the second s

vestment bank. However, the PLO, acutely

aware the early euphoria has died away and such projects remain unpopular with Palestinians, has since backed away

Now the organisation is taking an increasingly hard line against what it sees as an attempt by Israel to replace military occupation with economic domination.

"We do not have a problem with Israeli companies but we will deal with them as we do with other countries and I do not think they will be able to compete." said Amin Haddad. a senior economist, referring to Palestinian development plans.

"We are also advising private Palestinian firms not to make deals with Israeli counterparts right now because we

be fair," he added.

Palestinian businessmen say harsh criticism by PLO economics chief Ahmad Qouriea of joint ventures last week was prompted tures last week was prompted by a series of wrangles over who had agency rights for international brand names in Palestinian self-rule areas.

PLO officials have told multi-national firms manufacturing soft drinks and automobiles they will not allow Israeli agents to distribute their products in Gaza and Jericho

Israeli businessmen canvassed Western donors for a share in aid projects when the PLO clammed up several months ago. They say the PLO must give something in return for an economic pact that opened up Israeli markets to Palestinian

"These nationalist views are

realise the Israelis have more to lose than to gain but we agreed because we believe in a long-term vision," said Dan Propper, president ol the Israeli manufacturers' associa-

"We need to cement the peace by binding the economy of the Palesninians and the Israelis," he added.

Israel can influence the general course of Palestinian development by opposing plans such as a port at Gaza and an independent airport. But donour sources say they will find it harder to counter individual tenders and con-

Much of the development money will be tied to using firms from the donour country. and under the World Bank backed programme all projects worth more than \$5 million will

Israeli manufacturers in sectors like textiles, shoes and

food processing will want to move production into the West Bank and Gaza to take advantage of cheaper Palestinian And, with an economic

agreement that allows free movement of capital, the PLO will find it hard to slop them. "Even during the Intifada Israelis broke through the boycott by teaming up with Palestinians, this is well known," said a Palestinian in-

dustrialist who declined to be "Now the pressure to increase Palestinian standards of living is so great I think our leadership will be forced to take a pragmatic line and accept joint ventures," he · Minces and a inppie est the 'e-sekilometres

like a bonnet. It said that was The cut early were